

THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY

GUARDIAN

JULY 25 - 31 2001

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FREE



THE 27TH ANNUAL

BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

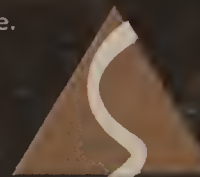
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The
San Francisco
Bay Guardian
July 25-31, 2001

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The right stuff: Paul Frohlich is the proud proprietor of Yum, the Best Little Grocery That Could.

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Best of the Bay 200119

The 27th annual Best of the Bay issue is our guide to all that is superlative in the Bay Area, from the Best Place to Go for Lunch and Stay for Dinner to the Best Soon-to-Be-Demolished Shrine to Satan — all this and more than 400 other places, people, and things you should know about. See our Best of the Bay Index, page 21.

The cover: Photo by Lori Eanes.

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Best Block Party in San Francisco157

Come celebrate the *Bay Guardian's* 27th annual Best of the Bay issue as well as our 35th anniversary.

in this issue

For years the Bay Guardian Block Party was a great idea whose time hadn't quite yet come. We talked about it; some of us advocated for it. But it was going to be a huge amount of work, a major logistical challenge, and we never quite had the time or staff resources to pull it off.

Until now. Thanks to Laird Archer, our promotions manager, who took the idea this spring and ran with it, the Best Block Party in San Francisco — the social event of the year — will get under way this Sunday, July 29, from noon to 6 p.m., right out in front of Bay Guardian headquarters on Hampshire between Mariposa and 18th Streets. It's a celebration of the 27th annual Best of the Bay issue and the paper's 35th anniversary — and it's free, and you're all invited. (See the ad on page 157 for the lineup of bands and performers.)

I say this every year, but every year it's true (at least for the moment): this is the best Best-of issue we've ever produced. More than 400 picks by our editors and our readers (from Best Place to Watch Cars Get Crushed to Best Place to Get Panties Fit for the Queen Mother). Six special neighborhood pages. Six local heroes. A special beer-and-salsa Tasting (with Paul Reiding's own simple and crude salsa recipe). A special San Francisco history section (new this year).

All of this was edited by Annalee Newitz and Reiding with valuable assistance from Abby Goldman, and they somehow managed to pull it together without (many) visible signs of stress. Thanks also to Victor Krumm-nacher and his amazing design crew, Lynn Rapoport and the Copy Cats, and (of course) the sales staff that pulled off a 268-page monster issue.

See you Sunday.

Tim Redmond
tredmond@sfbg.com

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Katherine Graham and history
Slanting the first draft, in Norman Solomon's Media Beat.

Medicare nightmare
Senior citizens are the hardest hit by the rising cost of prescription medicines, in Ralph Nader's In the Public Interest.

Artificial intelligence-gathering
In the Nessie Files.
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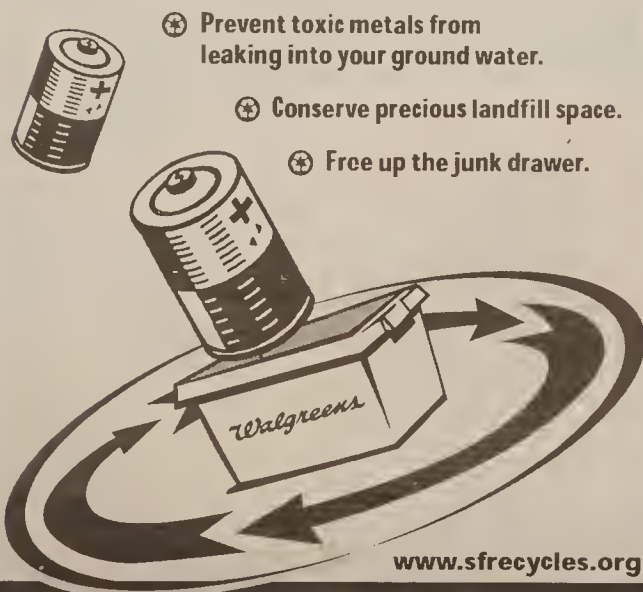
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letters to the editor

Easy come, easy go

Any experienced urban transient with a sense of propriety would recognize that A.C. Thompson missed his best chance at relief before even reaching the sidewalk ["Pee I," 7/11/01]. The two tall Peet's paper cups that caused the urination emergency can also solve it. Catch my drift?

Why, if I had a nickel for every wine bottle....

Chris Lester
San Francisco

Nowhere to go

I recently managed to read your article "Pee I," and found it both accurate and insightful. For any major city to have as limited access to free rest rooms as San Francisco has is tragically demeaning and representative of a culture more in touch with platinum Visa cards than common decency.

Even if the city utilized the standard construction area portable toilets, the benefits would be rapidly seen — better smell, fewer people turds in the alleys, and a place for the homeless to change clothing. A couple good rainstorms, and the change would be obvious.

Frankly, here at the county jail, we're very overcrowded and don't need to house people that get busted over such petty things as public bowel evacuation. We have enough people here for real crimes.

Gary Hallford
Inmate, San Francisco County Jail

Healing (Buddhist) racism

Thank you for Marisa Handler's article on the whiteness in American Buddhism ["Buddha's All-American," 7/11/01]. For

those white folks interested in remedying this situation, a group called Healing Racism in Our Sanghas meets at 7 p.m. on the first Friday of each month at Empty Gate Zen Center in Berkeley. Contact metta@dnai.com for details. I also offer a three-month course and personal growth process for white folks called Compassionate Transformation: A Buddhist Way to Heal Racism, which starts up again in September. Contact vanissart@ciis.edu for details.

For Buddhists of color looking for support, there is a Buddhists of Color Sangha and a Women of Color Sitting Group. Information on these groups as well as many other antiracist Buddhist community groups, resources, and initiatives can be found in a publication called "Making the Invisible Visible: Healing Racism in Our Buddhist Communities," available online at www.spiritrock.org/html/diversity.html or in hard copy from metta@dnai.com.

May all beings be free from racism, and of the suffering caused by racism.

Vanissar Tarakali
Oakland

Don't teach until asked

As a white person with an Indian name and religion, I felt more than a little embarrassed reading Marisa Handler's commentary, "Buddha's All-American" [7/11/01]. Like the people she takes note of in her piece, I indulge in yoga classes and read Sufi poetry. But the reality is I didn't choose my name or my religion. I grew up in Berkeley in the late '60s and my parents were hippies. Like myself, many of my playmates at school had Indian names and were forced to eat

brown rice all the time. I also feel no desire to go around promulgating my lifestyle or religion, specifically not to members of minority communities — something Handler appears to be suggesting people such as myself should be doing. Besides, as I understand it, one of the virtues of eastern religions, specifically Buddhism, is the belief that one should not teach until one is asked.

Mira Martin-Parker
San Francisco

The color of MUD

"The MUD Must Remain" (7/4/01), a timely editorial, troublingly failed to raise an additional political concern — one desperately requiring resolution before the MUD movement gets to the next level. When will the public power campaign and the largely white, middle-class, progressive leadership and allies put more color in their political diet and speak, in different tongues, a political language that is all-inclusive?

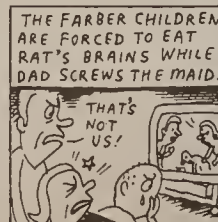
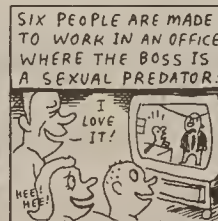
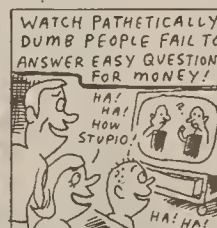
This unresolved contradictory dynamic inside S.F.'s politics of progressive coalition-building has, in my estimation, prevented a genuine multi-ethnic, multi-lingual grassroots coalition effort from forming citywide to bring MUD to victory in November.

Perhaps I'm naive or starry-eyed, but I thought in a majority nonwhite city like San Francisco, MUD organizers (including the virtually all-white Green Party) understood that intersections of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and immigrant status have to be crossed in order to build a united front — with leadership from communities of color at the forefront — and win the fight for public power and the battle against environmental racism.

How is this possible since so many of the "consumers" who live in the city (and throughout California), who pay record bills to PG&E, are poor, working-class Latinos, Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders, African Americans, and limited English-speaking immigrants?

Richard Marquez
San Francisco

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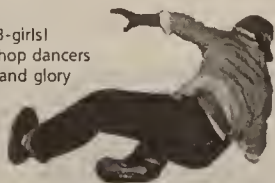
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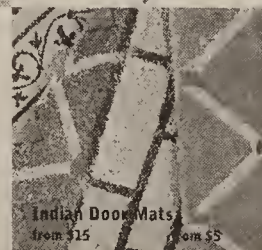
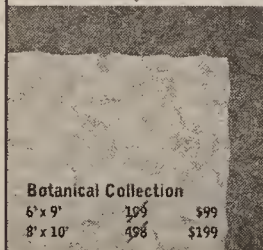
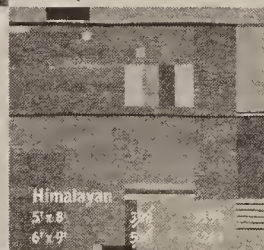
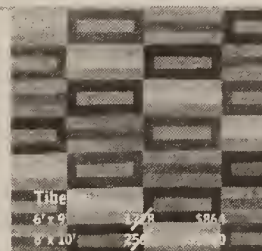
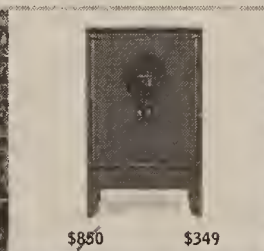
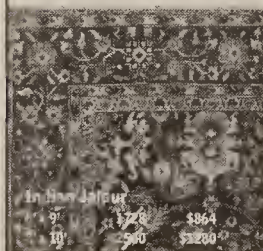
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Education

FIRST, THE BAD NEWS ...

For most kids July means no school; for far too many of them it also means no lunch. According to a study by California Food Policy Advocates, more than 60 percent of the children who qualify for school lunch programs in the state aren't linked up with similar programs in the summer months, even though such programs exist. Last summer, CFPA found, more than 16,000 San Francisco kids who ate free meals during the academic year went hungry. (Tali Woodward)

Power play

East Bay MUD considers the electricity business

By Rachel Brahinsky

Stirring up hopes that it might take over Pacific Gas and Electric facilities in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, the East Bay Municipal Utility District signed off June 26 on a \$400,000 study to consider producing and selling its own electricity.

The East Bay MUD, which sells water to 1.2 million customers, has been considering buying three of PG&E's hydroelectric dams for the past two years. If the study concludes that it would be financially sound, the East Bay MUD might become a public power provider as early as next year. In doing so, the 78-year-old MUD would, along with Sacramento's MUD, become one of the two largest in the state that sell power. The results of the study, by Sacramento-based energy consulting firm R.W. Beck, are expected in October.

The move is part of a growing statewide trend. At least 13 communities have reported that they're responding to the volatile state energy market by investigating public power initiatives. Their efforts may be bolstered by the Fair Citizen Access to Public Power Act, a bill that seeks to make it easier for communities to form MUDs. The bill, sponsored by state

senator Nell Soto (D-Ontario), passed through the state senate July 19; it now goes to the state assembly.

Leading the public power-initiative pack is San Francisco, where voters will be asked to weigh in on two public power ballot measures in November. Consumers statewide will be watching the San Francisco election.

One of those consumers is Cynthia Wooten, an East Bay MUD customer and the director of Californians for Responsible Energy, a new Berkeley-based public power research network.

Wooten is part of a consumer coalition gearing up to go the ballot box with a public power initiative next March if the agency does not move forward on its own. "The outcome of the study may bring a variety of recommendations," Wooten said. "I do know there are [East Bay MUD] board members that say they are really interested, though they are a conservative and cautious organization." ❖

Contact Californians for Responsible Energy at (510) 559-8707; learn more about public power at www.publicpowernow.org, www.sfbmud.org, or www.ap-panet.org.

E-mail Rachel Brahinsky at rachel@sfbg.com.

HALL MONITOR



Matt Gonzalez

Phone-y baloney: The Board of Supervisors sent Sprint packing last week, barring the company from placing a new cellular antenna on an Upper Fillmore rooftop. In a 10-1 vote, the board upheld neighbors' appeal of the antenna — the first time the city has denied such a permit. (Just last week the board approved an antenna on Laguna Street.)

At the July 16 hearing more than a dozen people expressed fears about radiation seeping into homes and schools. Sprint provided charts, graphs, and maps depicting areas with little or no cell-phone service — but company representatives then admitted that some customers could still use their phones in areas marked "no service," depending on the time of day. Sup. Matt Gonzalez slammed the company for presenting misleading information to the board.

On July 9 board president Tom Ammiano called for a moratorium on antennae in residential areas until the city has better guidelines. A hearing on the moratorium will be held at the board's Housing, Transportation and Land Use Committee Aug. 9, 10 a.m., City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place. (415) 554-5184. (Cassi Feldman)

Nasty business: Sup. Jake McGoldrick is trying to undo one of former supervisor Barbara Kaufman's many handouts to big business. McGoldrick has called for a hearing on repealing the "new jobs tax credit" — a little chum created by Kaufman, supposedly to attract new businesses to the city. McGoldrick calls the credit corporate welfare. He hopes to repeal it and use the funds freed up to raise the wages of low-paid city workers. (Savannah Blackwell)

Off base: Sup. Leland Yee put the Presidio Trust on notice this week that the Board of Supervisors is keeping more than a close eye on development plans at the national park.

The National Park Service's original plan for the site called for nonprofits focused on environmental activities and global peace to get priority on leases. Now those groups fear that idea is falling by the wayside. Trust members, including Gap chief Don Fisher, hope to increase the amount of commercial development and create upscale tourist attractions. They're scheduled to roll out their new plan July 25.

The trust was created to oversee the former military base by federal law and is outside of city hall's jurisdiction. But Yee is looking for leverage. At a July 17 hearing he investigated what services the city is providing for the park. And Sup. Gavin Newsom has introduced legislation that would create a working group of city officials charged with making sure the city's concerns are articulated to the trust.

Yee says the attention won't end there. "This board has a moral and fiduciary responsibility to the people of San Francisco," he said at the hearing. "And if that means participating in a lawsuit, so be it. Our interests will be protected." (Blackwell)

Edited by Gabriel Roth

Kopps and rubbish

Longtime city hall watchdog takes the trash out

By Savannah Blackwell

Residents torn between paying soaring electricity bills and escalating trash-collection fees, take heart: Gov. Gray Davis may be useless in fighting the corruption of Pacific Gas and Electric, but a taxpayers' group long associated with judge (and former state senator) Quentin Kopp has taken on the city's garbage monopoly.

Kopp's judicial gig in San Mateo County has forced his official silence. But the Good Government Alliance, whose vice president is Kopp's wife, Mara, has filed suit against the city over the 41 percent hike in garbage rates. The new rates went into effect July 1.

The alliance tapped city attorney candidate Steve Williams to handle the case. Like many San Francisco activists, Williams has tangled in recent years with committees and boards stacked with appointees of Mayor Willie Brown.

The suit, filed July 18 in San Francisco Superior Court, alleges that the city's rate board did not consider the environmental implications of the garbage companies'

plans to expand their collection program. Moreover, the suit points out, the hike is not justified; the garbage companies, all owned by Norcal Waste Systems, have made well over the 8 percent profit guaranteed by the city.

"We think they have violated the California Environmental Quality Act," Williams said. "There has been no thought given to how 120 additional trucks will impact the city's streets. Nor have they given thought to what 300,000 new [trash] bins will do to city sidewalks."

The garbage companies — Sanitary Fill Company, Sunset Scavenger, and Golden Gate Disposal and Recycling Company — contend the increase is needed for the city to comply with state recycling laws. But critics point out that 90 percent of the increase has nothing to do with those laws. Moreover, city staffers reported that only a 20 percent increase was warranted.

The suit might focus attention on the need to reform the way the price of garbage pickup is determined in San Francisco. Currently the three members of the rate board are all appointed by the mayor. Two of those members —

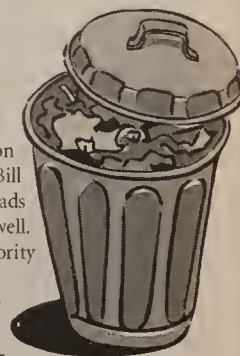
Controller Ed Harrington and City Administrator Bill Lee — owe their jobs as heads of departments to him as well. That board has sole authority over garbage rates.

As for the mayor, he owes Norcal.

In 1999, Norcal contributed at least \$25,000 in soft money to support Brown's 1999 reelection campaign. In addition, the mayor has represented Norcal as a client.

Norcal is represented by lobbyist Robert McCarthy, another big contributor to the mayor's election and a longtime political ally. McCarthy, his sometimes lobbying partner Debra Stein, and their clients accounted for more than 14 percent of the \$2.6 million in soft money spent in support of Brown's 1999 campaign. ❖

E-mail Savannah Blackwell at savannah_blackwell@sfbg.com.



GOT A TIP?

Call our tip line at (415) 487-2593.

BLAB

edited by a.c. thompson

It's summer. Time to grab the rug rats and head for the burbs for some amusement-park action. And the fun never ends, what with the wallet-draining ticket prices, the ghastly DMV-like lines at the roller coasters, the sickly sweet \$6 cotton candy, and that one ride

that spins you around and glues you to the walls until you collapse in a puking heap. If you hit Six Flags Marine World in Vallejo you may catch stuntman Carl Rice in action. He does three 17-minute shows daily — launching a Jet Ski off of a big-ass ramp, dancing through exploding balls of flame, and hurling himself from a 30-foot tower.

A former BMXer, snowboarder, and punk musician, the 29-year-old Rice lives in Concord (like most of our readership, he was evicted from his San Francisco apartment last year) but is looking to break into Hollywood.

I know there are schools for clown and circus performers, but how does one become a stuntman?

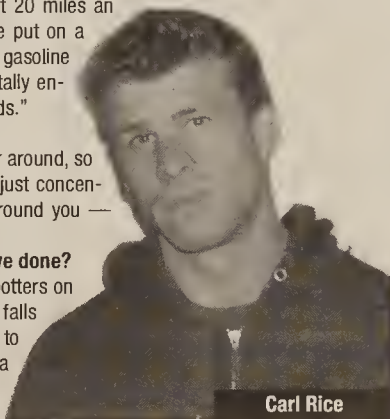
"There are schools. I actually went to one — Kahana Stunt School. That was in Florida. [Teacher Kim Kahana] was Charles Bronson's stunt double for about 10 years. At his school we did a lot of 'high falls' — falling into a big air bag — and 'car hits,' where you get hit by a car. When the car approaches you, you roll up onto the hood and off the windshield. The car goes about 20 miles an hour. We did 'fire burns,' where we put on a special suit and got set on fire with gasoline and rubber cement, so we were totally engulfed in flames for about 30 seconds."

What's that's like?

"I was glad there wasn't a mirror around, so I didn't have to see myself. You're just concentrating on the heat, the warmth around you — and the lack of oxygen."

What's the scariest thing you've done?

"A 60-foot-high fall. You have spotters on the air bag. And I did one of those falls where the spotters physically had to move the air bag 'cause I was gonna miss it." ❖



Carl Rice

Overcelled

Kids derail Alameda County superjail

By A.C. Thompson

Top brass at the Alameda County Probation Department are hell-bent on replacing the existing 299-bed juvenile jail with a new, \$117 million, 540-bed jail in Dublin, near the adult lockup.

Since the current juvenile hall, located in the San Leandro hills, sits on two active fault lines and has been plagued by overcrowding, doing a seismic upgrade or erecting a new building wouldn't be a bad idea. Chronic overcrowding is another problem: last year the youth lockup was over capacity for 50 days.

But you gotta wonder whether throwing up a facility with nearly twice as many cells is entirely necessary.

"This is not something young people in Alameda County need," says Rachel Jackson of Books Not Bars, an activist group opposed to the project. "Young people need parks. They need schools. They need job training. They don't need a \$100 million superjail."

Providing statistical backing for the Probation Department's mega-facility is a 1999 study by a company called Rosser International. Based on trends in population growth, the Rosser study determined there was a need for the extra 241 cells. But

Rosser, an architecture firm, isn't exactly known for its expertise in criminology. And the company has an interest in making the jail as big as possible: it's angling for the contract to design the structure. Jackson and company figure the county might want to get some more reliable numbers before shelling out a bundle of taxpayer loot.

It looks like county officials agree. At press time the Alameda Board of Supervisors was set to commission a study by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency to determine how big the jail should be.

"I don't want to build a brand-new facility where there's overcrowding," county supervisor Gail Steele says. "But do we want to go ahead and build 540 [beds], or could we do with a hundred less? I don't know. That's why we want to look into it."

The Alameda supes aren't the only people having second thoughts about the plan. In May the state Board of Corrections, apparently swayed by Books Not Bars' arguments, yanked \$2.3 million in funding for the project. ❖

E-mail A.C. Thompson at ac_thompson@sfbg.com.

Schools admission plan OK'd

District can use race as a factor

By Tali Woodward

A plan to combat segregation in San Francisco public schools has cleared a significant legal hurdle. And contrary to some media reports, the plan leaves the San Francisco Unified School District some leeway to consider race when making future school assignments.

The legal settlement also ensures the school district will receive more than \$35 million in annual desegregation funds until at least 2006, putting to rest one of the district's most pressing financial concerns.

Two years ago a lawsuit filed by a group of Chinese American families struck down the district's race-based desegregation plan. Now the district has prepared a new plan that last week won preliminary approval from federal judge William H. Orrick, who has overseen the district's desegregation efforts since 1983.

Under the district's proposal, it would consider several factors in the admissions process, including each child's socioeconomic status, educational history, neighborhood, and language background.

According to Washington, D.C.-based attorney Maree Sneed, who has worked on the case for the district, the settlement does not bar the schools system from considering a student's race — contrary to a report in the *San Francisco Chronicle* July 12.

The district "will try race-neutral means until the 2003-2004 school year," Sneed said. "If that proves unsuccessful, the district would consider using race." She emphasized that race would only be used to determine which students were admitted to a particular school or grade, rather than districtwide.

"What's vitally important for the entire country is that this court has not said that race can never be used in assignments," Jill Wynns, president of the San Francisco Board of Education, said. She said the new plan will allow the district to pursue not only racial integration but also more complete socioeconomic integration.

A 2000 district report found that "substantial disparities in academic achievement continue to exist both among schools in the district and among various racial and ethnic groups." Researchers also concluded that "incoming classes at several schools are marked by the highest levels of racial isolation in many years, suggesting a likelihood of accelerated resegregation." ❖

E-mail Tali Woodward at tali@sfbg.com.

Pedal pooper

Citysprint stops S.F. service

By Daffodil Altan

Eighty-four of the city's fastest workers were halted in a mass layoff last week by one of San Francisco's largest courier services, Citysprint Inc. Only nine days after being informed that a majority of its employees had signed cards requesting union representation, the international delivery service shut down its San Francisco office without notice to its employees, potentially violating federal legislation.

"We think that Citysprint broke labor laws in response to their workers exercising their democratic rights to unionize," International Longshore and Warehouse Union organizing representative Marcy Rein said. Rein cites the violation of the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, which requires that employers give 60 days' notification for plant closings and layoffs. The ILWU, which has suc-

cessfully negotiated contracts with two other delivery outfits, has worked with Citysprint for two years as part of an industry-wide organizing effort. The movement, spearheaded by the San Francisco Bicycle Messenger Association (see "Hell on Wheels," 5/5/99), has sought to negotiate fair labor practices for foot, bicycle, and car messengers.

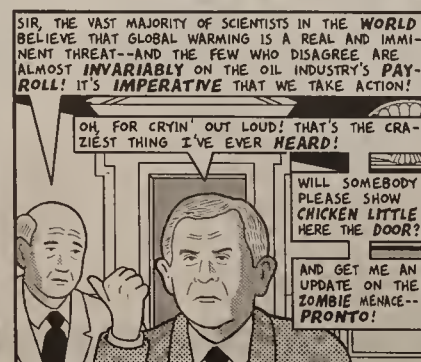
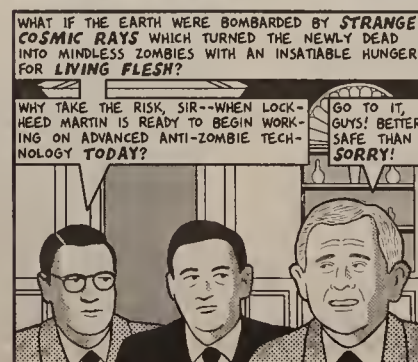
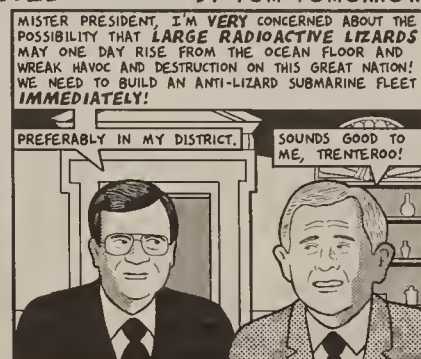
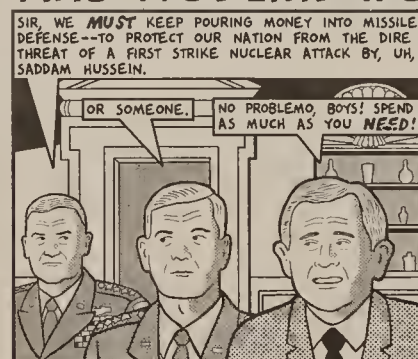
"Workers [at Citysprint] really came up and got the majority vote. They had some hope that they could do something," said Manuel Affonso, the association's treasurer, who was active in organizing efforts.

Citysprint moved in on the S.F. market about three years ago, gobbling up several independently owned messenger outfits. "It meant a pay cut for many messengers," Aaron Hackett, a recently laid-off Citysprint employee, said. Many employees already worked without health benefits, overtime pay, or vacation days. Employees hoped union representation would change current unfair labor practices.

Citysprint CEO Steve Swink was out of the country and unavailable for comment. Calls to the company's national headquarters in New York were not returned. ❖

THIS MODERN WORLD

BY TOM TOMORROW



Puerto Rico en la lucha

Wednesday, July 25, the eighth annual LaborFest remembers the anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Puerto Rico with two films and a photo exhibit of the Puerto Rican General Strike against the privatization of the telephone company.

7 p.m., *Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts*, 2868 Mission, S.F. \$5. (415) 821-1155 or (415) 642-8066.

MUD party

Thursday, July 26, the District Three Democratic Club holds a MUD Pie

Party and Social. 7-9 p.m., *Field of San Francisco*, 524 Union, S.F. Free. (415) 291-9566.

Zapata vive

Thursday, July 26, members of the Chiapas Support Committee hold an

update on the Zapatista struggle featuring a video, slide presentations, and a discussion. Proceeds benefit the Francisco Gómez Health Clinic. 7 p.m., *La Peña Cultural Center*, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. \$8-\$15 donation. (510) 654-9587.

Black displacement

Saturday, July 28, Artists' Television Access presents the Iconoclast Black Film Festival, with documentaries about gentrification in Harlem, housing and justice in San Francisco's Western Addition and Bayview districts, and the Juneteenth celebration. 8 p.m., *Artists' Television Access*, 992 Valencia, S.F. \$5. (415) 824-3890.

Mobilize for MUD

Saturday, July 28, help make the San Francisco-Brisbane MUD a reality by tabling and leafleting with MUD Now. 10:45 a.m., *Unified Educators Union*, 655 14th St., S.F. (415) 364-1522.

Stop jailing our youth!

Saturday, July 28, Youth Force Coalition and Books Not Bars hold "Not Down with the Lockdown: Summer Jam to Stop the Super-Jail," a rally and concert to halt Alameda County's plans to build the largest per-capita juvenile hall in the country. Noon-3 p.m., *Frank Ogawa Plaza*, 14th St. and Broadway, Oakl. Free. (415) 951-4844, ext. 27.

Arab labor, Israeli profits

Monday, July 30, Assaf Advi of the Workers Advice Center, an organization that works with Arab laborers in Israel, speaks about discrimination against Arab workers and the impact of Israeli companies' integration into the globalized economy, at a labor breakfast hosted by San Francisco Labor Council's Walter Johnson and cosponsored by the Labor Video Project. 8 a.m., 1188 Franklin, S.F. Free. (415) 282-1908.

Health care free fall

Monday, July 30, Health Care for All presents "California's Health Care Safety Net: Living on the Edge," featuring Jim G. Kahn of the California Physicians Alliance. 7 p.m., 626 Pacheco, S.F. Free. (415) 695-7891.

Murder at the G8

Contact the Italian Consulate and register your protest of the assassination of 23-year-old anti-corporate globalization protester Carlo Giuliani, shot twice in the head by Italian police in Genoa who then ran over him in their armored vehicle. *Consolato Generale d'Italia a San Francisco*, 2590 Webster St., S.F., CA 94115. Call (415) 931-4924, send faxes to (415) 931-7205, or e-mail consolato@italcons-sf.org. ❖

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The liberal magazine that I edit, **The American Prospect**, has doubled its circulation since last fall. Your administration is slavishly pro-business—but it's also good for our business.

The more you keep pursuing policies that most people think are nuts, the more people are eager to find alternatives. Imagine, cutting taxes on the richest one percent of Americans, instead of giving ordinary people secure health care and good schools.

Please—keep it up, Mr. President, and the sometimes gutless Democrats in Congress will come roaring back.

You tried to squeeze crusty old Senator Jim Jeffords—everything from disinviting him from a major education event honoring a teacher from his own state to threatening Vermont's dairy farmers. You squeezed him so hard he quit the Republican party.

Just when I think you've learned something—when it looks like you've decided to repair to the middle of the road and be the kind of president that you promised in your campaign—you do it again!

Scuttling the treaty on global warming. Drilling for oil in Alaska rather than pursuing conservation. Threatening to veto the patients rights bill. Spending taxpayer dollars on religious schools. Appointing protégés of Jesse Helms to the federal appeals courts.

Here at **The American Prospect**, we keep watching your performance with wonder and appreciation.

Even my Democratic friends are so appalled that they are starting to step up to the plate, and support bold things like living wage laws and universal health insurance. They're actually going to block some of your court nominees.

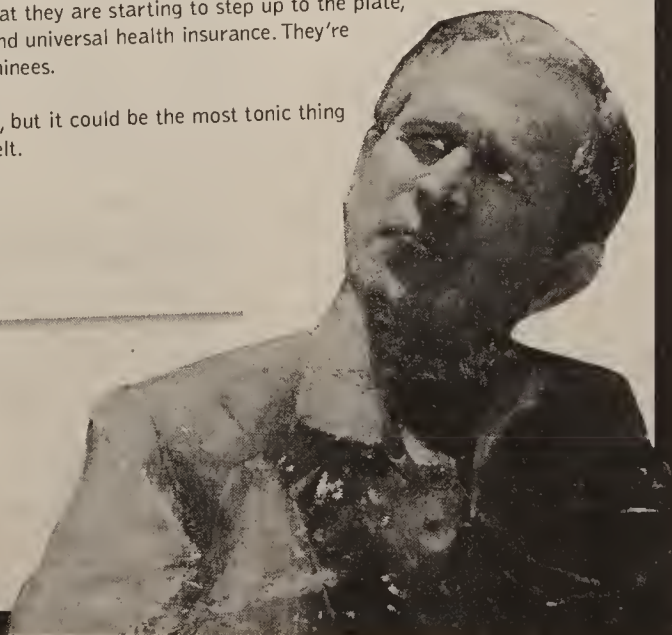
Your administration wasn't what I had in mind, but it could be the most tonic thing for American liberalism since Franklin Roosevelt.

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Co-editor

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Harry gives 'em hell

Harry Britt kicked off his run for state assembly last week in fighting form. After five years in which **Carole Migden** has held San Francisco's east-side assembly seat virtually unopposed, it looks like things are about to get interesting.

At his July 19 campaign launch party Britt dismissed Sup. **Mark Leno**, his chief rival for the Democratic nomination: "The little stuff he's done since **Willie Brown** appointed him — good start, junior."

But most of the heat was directed at **Robert Barnes**, the soft-money guru who's helping run Leno's campaign. Britt slammed Barnes for attacking Migden — referring, he later said, to stories in the press and to a press release from the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, in which Barnes is influential, attacking Migden for attempting to swing the club's endorsement to Britt.

"It is unseemly for anyone to be attacking one of the most effective progressive leaders the city has ever known," Britt said. "Carole pointed out to me that the Barnes machine is misogynistic — well, duh, Carole, we knew that." Barnes's vaunted soft-money operation, he said, "launders money from Willie Brown."

Barnes says Britt is targeting him because Leno is too popular to attack. "They should focus on running a campaign for the assembly," he said. "I haven't said anything about Harry Britt or Carole Migden, and I resigned from the Alice board last year."

The Britt-Leno race is scrambling alliances all over town. Until Migden endorsed Britt over Leno for her seat, Barnes was one of her most trusted allies. ("She was pretty happy with my fundraising techniques until now," Barnes said.)

And Britt is receiving campaign help from political consultant and former mayoral candidate **Clint Reilly** — who ran the 1987 campaign in which **Nancy Pelosi** defeated Britt for a seat in congress.

Reilly didn't return calls for comment, but Britt said, "I like to think he felt he backed the wrong horse in 1987. He finds my campaign exciting and wants to help."

Is Reilly lining up support for another mayoral bid?

"He hasn't asked me to endorse him," Britt said, "and neither have any of the 13 other people in my campaign considering running for mayor — **Angela Alioto**, **Tom Ammiano**. Some people even think Carole Migden hasn't ruled it out."

No wonder he's so uptight

"Still, even though I've never tried marijuana ..."

SF Weekly columnist Matt Smith

Kissinger bombs

Only in America could a German immigrant attending a Harlem public school grow up to carpet bomb civilians, overthrow governments, and rake in a reported \$30,000 for a lunchtime speech in a hotel ballroom.

The Horatio Alger figure in question, of course, is former secretary of state **Henry Kissinger**, who brought his booming voice and thin pieties to the San Francisco Commonwealth Club last week.

To the sold-out crowd Kissinger offered a half-hour whistle-stop tour of world powers.

The event might have been livelier had Green Party activist **Medea Benjamin** been there. Unfortunately, club staffers, remembering a previous lecture at which Enron president **Jeffrey Skilling** was heckled and hit with a pie, wouldn't let her in.

In the absence of a well-aimed rhubarb tart, the only real fireworks came when club board chair **Toni Rembe** read questions submitted by the audience.

"How do you respond to charges that you helped destabilize elected governments and should be tried as a war criminal?" Rembe asked, provoking nervous laughter.

Kissinger wouldn't address the charge, which had been raised by journalist **Christopher Hitchens** in *Harper's* magazine. "I don't comment on that article, which is untrue, reckless, and contemptible," he said. "In the last 20 years we went through many crises on which our nation was divided. We will never heal those wounds unless these people have the courage to state their case without making charges of war crimes."

Questions that were not asked at the lecture but perhaps should have been: What did you and **General Suharto** discuss the day before the Indonesian army invaded East Timor? Why have you refused to appear as a witness in an ongoing investigation of the disappearance of five French citizens in Chile during the **Pinochet** regime? And how do the wounds of division inflicted on America by the Vietnam War compare with the wounds inflicted on the people of Cambodia and Laos by U.S. bombers?

Rembe was presumably about to get to those when she ran out of time. Anyone who's interested, though, can ask Hitchens when he addresses the club in October. ❖

Got a tip? E-mail Gabriel Roth at gabriel@sfbg.com.

Charles Russo contributed to this report.



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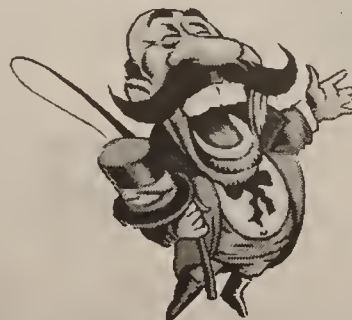
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Announcing an exciting new addition to the San Francisco Bay Guardian classifieds, Body & Soul. This section is a comprehensive healthy living guide for the over 600,000 loyal readers who are seeking tangible improvements to their lives. Bay Area residents are concerned with quality of life issues and the Bay Guardian is offering a weekly resource for informing and providing opportunities to address those issues.

news public power

Hard-knuckle win

Dramatic labor lobbying pushes public power charter change onto ballot. By Rachel Brahinsky

Over at the Plumbers Hall Monday evening, members of the San Francisco Labor Council were preparing to endorse San Francisco Board of Supervisors president Tom Ammiano's public power charter amendment, which was up for a vote at the board that day. But just minutes before the endorsement vote, two members who had been watching the supervisors live on television burst into the room to break the news: There was nothing to endorse. In a surprising turn of events, Ammiano's measure had been defeated.

Organized labor sprang into action, and within half an hour some 40 labor leaders, including Labor Council secretary treasurer Walter Johnson; Professional and Technical Engineers, Local 21, executive director David Novogrodsky; Labor Council vice president Bob Boileau; and Connie Ford of Office and Professional Employees International Union, Local 3, convened on City Hall, just a few blocks away from the Plumbers Hall. They surrounded several supervisors and their aides in the hallway outside of the board chambers and demanded that the board rescind its earlier vote and start over.

An hour later, in a dramatic move that demonstrates the growing and widespread support for public power, the board rescinded its earlier vote and placed Ammiano's measure, which would create an independent water and power authority, on the November ballot.

Sups. Mark Leno and Gerardo Sandoval, who had initially opposed the charter measure, switched their votes after labor's hard-knuckle lobbying and helped provide the 6-5 majority. Also voting for the measure were Ammiano, Sophie Maxwell, Aaron Peskin, and Jake McGoldrick. Voting against it were Chris Daly, Matt Gonzalez, Gavin Newsom, Tony Hall, and Leland Yee.

The supervisors summarily dispensed with a rival measure by Newsom, which had been amended to closely resemble Ammiano's, defeating it 9-2, then voting 6-5 not to reconsider that action.

Earlier that day, when Ammiano's came up for its first vote, it was defeated in a 7-4 vote that split the board's most reform-minded flank: McGoldrick, Peskin, and Maxwell voted with the board president, and Leno, Sandoval, Daly, and Gonzalez joined with the more conservative Newsom and Hall to defeat it.

The initial defeat of the measure stunned labor leaders, who had done little advance lobbying. "Some of us were under the impression that somebody [else] was doing the necessary work," Dennis Moskofian, a member of the Bay Area Labor Task Force for Public Power, MUD Now, and the Labor

Council, told the Bay Guardian.

That work would have included explaining to board members that labor strongly supports the language written into the charter amendment that would guarantee that most workers in the city who are now employed by private utility companies would keep their union wages and benefits if the city took over the work of generating and distributing power.

Some labor sources have expressed concern that the municipal utility district (MUD) proposal — a public power proposal that was put on the ballot in February in response to a citizen initiative petition — does not promise such protections. They argued for a dual campaign for the two public power proposals.

But they hadn't counted all of their votes. "I had not heard from labor once," Leno said during debate on the revote.

Labor leaders were careful to express support for both the charter amendment and the municipal utility district measure, which is also on the fall ballot. Many public power supporters fear that two measures will cloud the issue and confuse voters.

"We urge a yes, yes vote," Johnson of the Labor Council told the supervisors. One of 11 labor representatives who spoke, Johnson said the two measures "can move down the highway together, and we'll say, 'Yes, we have the power here, the power of the people.'"

That dual support will be crucial to ensuring public power's success at the ballot box this fall, MUD advocates told us. "All those people who put as much energy into the deliberations at City Hall today in order to further the passage of public power, I expect to exponentially work toward the victory of our campaigns," MUD Now campaign director Ross Mirkarimi said. "What labor did today is what they have done so many times before: flex their muscles and get results. I expect labor to be very central to the whole campaign operation." ❖

P.S. The San Francisco Chronicle's virtual blackout of local public power news continues: The highly unusual action, demonstrating how profoundly labor has changed its stance on public power, was almost ignored by the Chron, which gave the news only one paragraph at the very end of a City Hall roundup. Meanwhile, in a front-page story on San Diego's attempts to form a MUD, Chron reporter David Lazarus strangely failed to mention the local MUD campaign.

The supervisors' meeting will be rebroadcast Wed/25, 10 p.m., cable channel 26. Copies of the charter amendment can be obtained from the clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

E-mail Rachel Brahinsky at rachel@sfbg.com.



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The business of education

The state Board of Education has more power than ever — and Gov. Gray Davis is stacking it with people who have spent more time in boardrooms than classrooms. Are they equipped to fix California's public school system? *By Tali Woodward*

Reed Hastings wasn't always involved in state education policy. In 1991 he started a company called Pure Software. Six years later, once it had become one of the largest publicly held software companies in the world, he sold it for \$750 million. Now Hastings is president of a Web company called NetFlix.com — and he's also president of California's Board of Education.

The fact that Hastings has spent more time contemplating business strategies than educational approaches makes him fairly representative of the 11-member board, which now boasts four CEOs. Indeed, a couple of years after Gov. Gray Davis took office, there's not a single active teacher on the Board of Education — and only three board members could be described, in the broadest sense, as educators.

Some argue that's a good thing. The public education system has failed too many students, these reformers cry; it's time to bring in "managers" who know how to get things done. One of those voices belongs to Marion Joseph, one of the few members of the board who has made a career out of education. She worked for a state superintendent and is the best-known proponent of phonics-based reading programs in California. To be on the board, she told the *Bay Guardian*, "it would be helpful if you knew how schools operate. But you don't have to have been a teacher to know that." Joseph also said that she and Nancy Ichinaga, a former school principal, work as the board's "liaisons on curriculum, textbooks — all those things that involve instruction."

However, Joseph's position has its share of critics. They say that decisions about the state's schools should be made by people who know firsthand what makes schools successful — people who have worked directly with kids and teachers, or at least spent several years learning about the state's school system. The businesspeople whom Davis has made a habit of appointing may know how to run companies, these critics say, but schools are another matter entirely. Children, after all, can't be handled like consumer products.

They also point out that the businesspeople now at the helm have more power than their predecessors. While schools have traditionally been the responsibility of locally elected school boards, in the past decade the California Board of Education has steadily amassed power. Now it's in a position to make far-

reaching, and sometimes very specific, decisions about what happens in California schools — down to what math textbook a third-grader is assigned.

Chief education officers

Davis has appointed all but one of the board's current members. In March, Davis named to the board two people who are closely tied to the business world — and who hold rather conservative views about education.

Gap Inc. chair Donald Fisher is a longtime proponent of charter schools. In 1998 he pledged \$25 million to help Edison Schools Inc., the nation's largest for-profit school company, set up shop in California. (The lifelong Republican also donated \$10,000 to Davis last year.) He is known as a shrewd businessperson and a political force here in San Francisco, but his only experience in education comes from making donations. Fisher declined to be interviewed by the *Bay Guardian*; a Gap spokesperson told us it would be "premature and inappropriate" for Fisher to speak on board issues when he has not yet been confirmed by the state senate. (Though that body has up to a year to confirm or reject gubernatorial appointments to the board, appointees take their seats immediately, and Fisher attended the board's last few meetings.)

Davis's other March appointee, Suzanne Tacheney, has a lot more experience with education policy. She received a doctorate in the subject and worked in school administration in Los Angeles. Now she's executive director of a group called California Business for Education Excellence. The group — founded by large corporations such as IBM and Boeing — works to create an education "system that ensures accountability and fosters competition," according to its Web site. It also advocates for charter schools and statewide assessment. Tacheney told us that having some businesspeople on the board means there is "less of a tendency to want to micro-manage everything. It's a bottom-line way of thinking."

Criticism from educators, the teachers' unions, and liberal Democrats reached a crescendo with the Fisher and Tacheney appointments. But the appointments aren't all that different from Davis's earlier ones. "In the '80s and early '90s there used to be more educators on the board," said Sal Villaseñor, who has watched the board for more than a decade and is now a lobbyist for the California School Boards Association. "[Gov. Pete] Wilson began to appoint more business folks — and with Davis we've seen that trend continue."

regulations pushing for schools that don't have to abide by them. San Francisco school board president Jill Wynn says that charter schools are a "simplistic answer to a very difficult question: how do you provide a high-quality education to every child in California? I don't think it's a coincidence that with all these businesspeople on the state board, you have a bunch of charter proponents."

Board president Hastings, who says he sees vouchers as "a possible instrument," has been a hearty charter-school advocate in the past year. He

Testing the limits

Some say that business-minded reformers like Hastings, who set out to remake public education the way they would a struggling company, are unlikely to stick around for the long haul. They point to other (more conservative) businesspeople like Ron Unz and Tim Draper, who made very public but short forays into educational reform.

However, few deny that the current board members — whatever their backgrounds — have unprecedented power. "Toward the end of the Wilson administration the legislature began to give the board more power in terms of implementing programs — things that were usually left to the [California Department of Education]," Villaseñor said. "It's partly due to politics." The governor appoints members to the board, while the Department of Education is controlled by the directly elected state superintendent of public instruction.

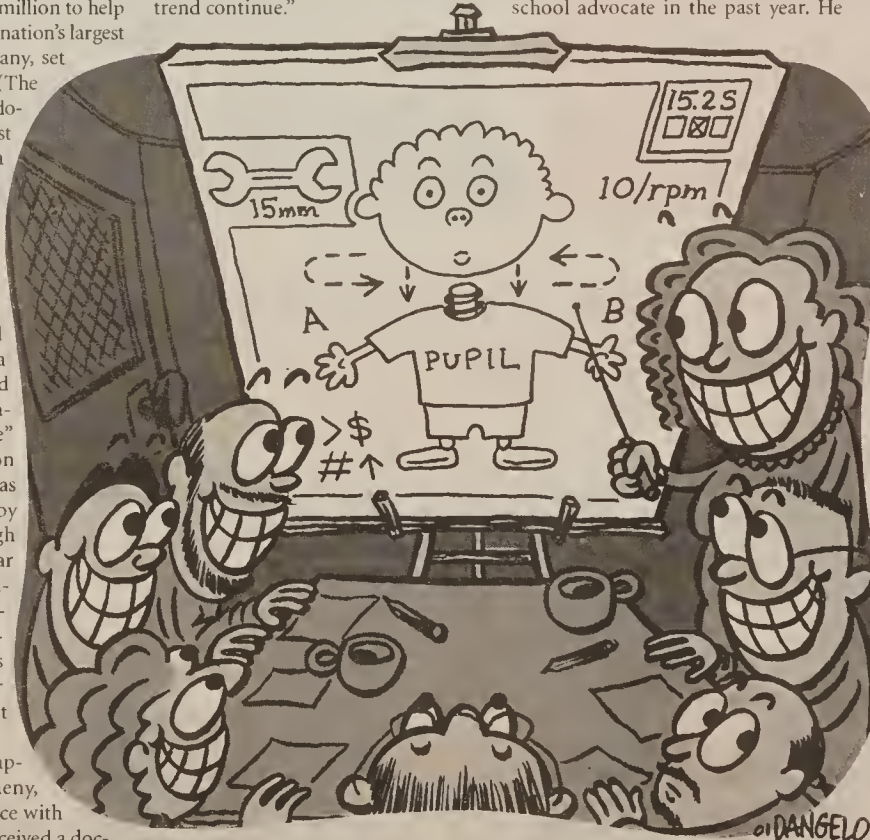
In the past the board set relatively general goals for the state's schools; now it often generates quite specific guidelines on how those goals should be met. Recently the board adopted very detailed curricular standards in four subject areas for each grade. It also now approves textbooks and other written materials for use in California schools.

The national "accountability" craze — and the reliance on standardized testing that goes with it — has also allowed the board to expand its influence. The board selects test publishers and procedures for the entire state and also decides how test scores are used. Today those scores can determine not only whether a student advances to the next grade or how a school is ranked but also how much funding individual campuses receive and what salaries teachers earn.

Hastings, who acknowledges that the lack of teachers on the board concerns him, still defends the expansion of state control. "That's a national trend. In the '90s education became a real political issue. Clinton talked about education more than any other president; Bush will probably talk about it even more. State standards are part of that."

"Twenty years ago no one really cared who was on the state board," Wynn said. "But at that point it wasn't deciding what test every kid would take." ❖

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Other Davis appointees include Carlton Jenkins, a former bank president; Vicki Reynolds, a former mayor and school board member in Beverly Hills; and businessperson Robert J. Abernathy. The governor is expected to fill a remaining vacancy before the board's next meeting in early September.

Many liberal educators also express concern about the board's general enthusiasm for charter schools. Charter schools are freed from many of the state regulations that govern traditional public schools. So it's a little strange, these critics point out, to have the same people who draw up those

spent more than \$2 million on the campaign for the March 2000 state ballot measure Proposition 39, which made it easier to pass school bonds. But he chipped in only after convincing the California Teachers Association to amend the initiative so that school districts must provide facilities to charter schools. (That provision recently came into play in San Francisco when the school board was trying to end its Edison Schools contract. Eventually, the two parties reached a settlement that allowed Edison to seek a charter from the state board, which was granted July 12.)

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INTRODUCTION

Two cities

By Annalee Newitz

The 2001 Bay Guardian Best of the Bay task force

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San Francisco in 2001 is living through the best of times and the worst of times. The housing shortage has eased, but that's because so many people have lost their jobs and moved away. Compared with a year ago, it's easier to be an artist in the Bay Area, but it's harder to earn a living wage. Rapid development has halted in low-income areas, but then again, rapid development has halted in all areas as a result of our depressed economy.

Times like these remind me that San Francisco is really two cities. Like all urban areas, it's a playground for the ultrarich. Impossibly expensive restaurants nestle next to million-dollar homes whose gorgeous facades and elaborate gardens taunt those of us who can't afford them. But San Francisco is also a city of the dispossessed. Its poverty is as shocking as its wealth. Homeless people are rousted from parks and makeshift street beds on a daily basis, and cramped, overpopulated houses and crumbling storefronts are reminders that many people never experienced the dot-com boom. They exist in a permanent state of bust.

The pleasurable frenzied culture of San Francisco is undoubtedly affected by economic divisions that are far from pleasant. There's a dark side to enjoying what's fantastic about the Bay Area when so many people can't afford to shop in our best stores or eat at our delicious restaurants or even take in the latest art show at SFMOMA. And yet, perhaps especially when times are tough, it's important to remember what makes San Francisco the best damn city in California and probably (from my xenophilic perspective) the world.

Not all of our attractions cost money, and many of them are dirt-cheap enough that even underpaid journalists at alternative weeklies can afford them. This year our readers voted Golden Gate Park — admission is free! — one of the all-time best places to hang out, whether that's to Rollerblade, go for a walk, or

enjoy the most peaceful time of the afternoon at 4:20 p.m. And our editorial staff has worked harder than ever to bring you news of the best places to get cheap food, cheap liquor, cheap wedding gowns, even cheap *Star Wars* action figures. And if you feel like splurging on payday, well, we have some not-so-cheap bests for you, too.

The *Bay Guardian's* 27-year-old

This year we want you to help us celebrate everything that's best about San Francisco by coming to our free block party on July 29. The most important parts of San Francisco and the Bay Area are people like you who live here, and we've got some fantastic free entertainment lined up for you next weekend. And, of course, we'll have cheap beer. So come out and enjoy visiting with the members

Best Block Party

We want you — whoever you are — to come to our **Best Block Party in San Francisco**, in celebration of our 35th year and our 2001 Best of the Bay winners. The party will be held in front of the Guardian building, at 520 Hampshire St. (between Mariposa and 18th Streets) on Sunday, July 29, from noon until 6 p.m.

If you need more reason than that to show up, consider that:

- the party is open to the public;
- the party is free;
- the food and drink (including beer and soda), though not free, will generate proceeds for the Bay Guardian Community Fund and its beneficiaries, which this year are the California First Amendment Coalition, Christmas in April, the Homeless Prenatal Program, the Lemonade Fund of Theatre Bay Area, and the Unity Fund;
- there will be two stages, live and DJed music, internationally known touring performers, live Mexican wrestling, and more!

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tradition of compiling an annual Best of the Bay issue originated during another time of economic and political upheaval. In 1974, as the Vietnam War was coming to an ugly conclusion and the Watergate scandal was capturing headlines, *Esquire* magazine was doing a Best of the USA issue. One of its editors contacted the *Bay Guardian* to get some tips on what was "the best" in San Francisco. We looked at the *Esquire* package — which included the same sorts of listings for every city — and made its generic concept into something progressive and meaningful. Best of the Bay was born, making the *Bay Guardian* the first alternative weekly to do a "Best of" issue.

of your local community. Their companionship and creativity are better than all the expensive parts of San Francisco put together.

When things are rough, we need to come together, whether that's to party, to organize grassroots movements, or to lobby for affordable housing. Our goal at the *Bay Guardian* has always been to make San Francisco's two cities into one. Now, more than ever, this mission is on our minds. There are zillions of things about San Francisco that are the best, and we can keep them that way by working to ensure that even the poorest and most marginalized among us will survive in a dignified way. ❖



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THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

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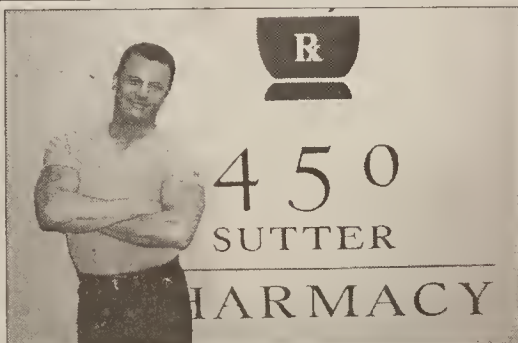
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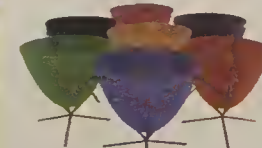
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READERS' POLL

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Every year, in the spirit of democracy, we ask our readers to vote on the most important questions in life, such as what the best intersection in San Francisco might be or where to eat the best Eritrean food. This year we tallied up nearly 3,000 votes to figure out what you, the readers, think is terrific about the Bay Area. Special thanks to the *Bay Guardian's* own CPA, John Harper, who painstakingly counts up your votes every year. Here are your answers — and they might just surprise you.

Best New Restaurant

If it's Greek to our readers, they seem to like it. And it doesn't get much more Greek than **Mezes**, a snug storefront — with a mezzanine — in the Marina. The Greek salad is epic, the souvlaki (various meats grilled on skewers) sublime, and the service as sunny as a summertime noon on your favorite Cyclades island. No poll data on that question, but something tells us ... Mykonos. Until your next visit, Mezes will more than suffice. 2373 Chestnut, S.F. (415) 409-7111.

Best Restaurant That's More Than 25 Years Old; Best Seafood Restaurant

In this city the temptation to surf the trends is eternal — and eternally perilous. Just ask the owners of some of the many restaurants that have gone under in the past year alone. Our readers, while undoubtedly trendy, also have a healthy respect for durability, and there's no restaurant in the city more durable than **Tadich Grill**. It isn't just more than 25 years old, it's more — way more — than a century old, and it's still grilling up simple, excellent seafood, a culinary point on which it finds itself in a tie with the slightly less venerable but no less impressive **PJ's Oyster Bed**. Are you paying attention, whippersnappers? *Tadich Grill*, 240 California, S.F. (415) 391-1849; *PJ's Oyster Bed*, 737 Irving, S.F. (415) 566-7775.

Best Pizza

Always a troubled category. Lots of bad pizza hereabouts. But our readers continue to put their trust in **Zachary's Chicago Pizza**, where the pizza actually does resemble something you might get in Chicago. Or Italy. Not a big breadly blob, in other words. And you don't have to board some overcrowded, hours-long cattle-car flight to get it. 5801 College, Oakl. (510) 655-6385; 1853 Solano, Berk. (510) 525-5950.

Best Take-out

Take-out food surely has to be one of the most competitive of all local endeavors. Practically every restau-

rant hereabouts makes some provision for take-out orders (though of course the fancier places don't encourage this). But our readers like the tried-and-true, and that would be **Mel's Drive-In**, for burgers, shakes, fries, and other such all-Americana. While the 1950s, *Happy Days* aura is the restaurant's most striking charac-

teristic, there are always some who just want to take the grub and run — home. 2165 Lombard, S.F. (415) 921-2867; 3355 Geary, S.F. (415) 387-2255; 1050 Van Ness, S.F. (415) 292-6357.

Best Korean Hot Pot

The spice queens among the readership know that no cuisine satisfies the keening for gastronomic zing quite like Korean. You know you're dealing with real heat when even the (pickled) cabbage is blazing. And among the many Korean hot pots in the Richmond, our readers choose **Brothers Korean Restaurant**, whose heavily Korean patronage suggests authenticity. Nothing fancy, just tons

Best Vietnamese Food

No surprise here: the readers vote for Charles Pham's **Slanted Door**. Is this their way of casting surreptitious votes for Bill Clinton? The ex-prez dug the artfully Californianized cooking, but then the ex-prez dug a lot of cooking. He probably appreciated the healthy dinnertime portions. If you want a more traditional Vietnamese experience and don't feel like running the reservations gauntlet, try lunch. Cheaper, too. 584 Valencia, S.F. (415) 861-8032.

Best Falafel

Falafel would have to make anyone's short list of perfect foods. It's inexpensive, tasty, good for you, and vegan. Plus, it goes very nicely in pita

Best Burrito; Best Taqueria; Best Cheap Restaurant

Bay Guardian readers know from burritos, and while they have their pick from a broad array of taquerias, cantinas, and restaurants, it's the stuff from **Taqueria Can-Cun** that they'd rather have. And it's not just the Can-Cun burrito that's the best: the restaurant as a whole takes the prize, as far as our readers are concerned. And, to complete the holy trinity of Mexican food, it's way cheap. But you'd already guessed that part, hadn't you? 1003 Market, S.F. (415) 864-6773; 2288 Mission, S.F. (415) 252-9560; 3211 Mission, S.F. (415) 550-1414.

Best Tapas

Like seawater, tapas seem to be everywhere these days, in a variety of incarnations. If you do what the readers want you to when the urge for those tasty little plates strikes, you'll make for **Cha Cha Cha**, where the mood and the

cheap — what's not to like? When the mood strikes, our readers head to **New Eritrea**, there to set upon huge platters of beef cooked in spiced clarified butter and other such wonders. When you're really, truly hungry, nothing else will quite do. 907 Irving, S.F. (415) 681-1288.

Best Indian Restaurant

If you like your Indian food in a slightly tony, city-hip setting, as our readers do, then you'll love **Indian Oven**, as our readers do. The Indian standards are rendered with skill and panache, and it's a relief to know that there's at least one Indian restaurant in town without the ubiquitous all-you-can-eat lunchtime buffet. Confidential to America: sometimes more isn't better. 233 Fillmore, S.F. (415) 626-1628.

Best Fusion Restaurant; Best Place to Have Wine

East is east, and west is west, and — say our readers — the twain meet at **Eos**. So do the glamorous young, though their ranks have been sadly thinned by the recent turns of the old economic worm. It's not just the fusion food the readers like, either; it's the wine. For those just looking to drink, there's a nifty wine bar adjoining the restaurant proper; the restaurant's wine list is also formidable. Note: It's pricey. And parking is horrific. You could ride the N Judah, which all but rolls through the dining room (not that anyone would notice amid all the noise). But Eos isn't exactly your public transport sort of place. 901 Cole, S.F. (415) 566-3063.

Best American Food

Burgers, pizzas, pastas, grilled fish — who says American food is hopeless? Not our readers, at least not if they can have their American vittles at **Chow**, where everything gets a bit of an Italian twist, shall we say. Cool tavernlike space, low prices, reliable quality, fairly eclectic, sexy patronage — oh yes, there's plenty to like here. 215 Church, S.F. (415) 552-2469.

Best Sunday Brunch

Sunday morning, you're not going to church, there's no football game on, it's too early to have a beer. This is all leading in one direction: toward brunch. The brunch where you're most likely to find our readers is **Mama's Royal Café**. When a restaurant has the word "mama" in its name, you know all you need to know. 4012 Broadway, Oakl. (510) 547-7600.

Best Outdoor Restaurant

When the sun shines — it does sometimes, you know, just not very often in summer — our hungry readers head to the **Ramp**, for burgers and fries al fresco and maybe a chance to work that city



Eat with your hands: Sibling restaurant owners, from left, Eden Mann, Misghina Mann, and Tity Mann share responsibility for New Eritrea, voted the Best Eritrean Restaurant.

bread, with lettuce, tomatoes, yogurt, and tahini sauce. For the ultimate falafel experience, our readers prefer **Truly Mediterranean**, where the pita bread is always soft ... truly! 1724 Haight, S.F. (415) 751-7482; 3109 16th St., S.F. (415) 252-7482.

Best Brazilian Restaurant

Our readers know that **Terra Brazilis** isn't just the best Brazilian restaurant in town but one of the best restaurants, period, in Hayes Valley and for that matter the whole city. Brazilian ingredients and standards get a nice urban spiffing up, and everything is served in a stylish bistro setting of warm wood and glass. 602 Hayes, S.F. (415) 241-1900.

food are Caribbean. Bomb sangria, too. 1801 Haight, S.F. (415) 386-5758; 2327 Mission, S.F. (415) 648-0504.

Best Sushi

They must be doing something right at **Ebisu**, because year after year, despite ever fiercer competition in the wonderful world of raw fish, that's the restaurant our readers choose as the place to go for their fix of the uncooked stuff. 1283 Ninth Ave., S.F. (415) 566-1770.

Best Eritrean Restaurant

Eritrean is one of those long-unsung cuisines whose bright melodies are finally starting to be heard. It's spicy, complex, satisfying, easy to share,

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Two for tea: Lovejoy's Tea Room serves the Best Afternoon Tea, which is being enjoyed by Ama Medina Seabright and her mother, Linda Seabright.

Readers' Poll

From page 27

tan a bit. If your stomach is growling and you still have your winter pallor in July, this is the place for you. 855 China Basin, S.F. (415) 621-2378.

Best Vegetarian Restaurant; Best Restaurant with a View

Even if **Greens** served English food, it would be packed most of the time with people (including lots of *Bay Guardian* readers) who couldn't get enough of the admittedly spectacular view. To be sitting at a table near one of the huge plate-glass windows, looking west across the bay to the Golden Gate Bridge as the sun sets and wisps of fog trail inland, is a memorable experience. It's even more so if you happen to be a vegetarian: Greens is once again the readers' top restaurant choice for those living the meatless life. *Fort Mason, Bldg. A, Marina at Laguna, S.F. (415) 771-6222.*

Best Barbecue

You know the feeling: you've got to have ribs. It's one of life's periodic imperatives. Our readers hear you (they have feelings too), and they say you should get your ass to **Brother-in-Laws Barbeque**, where you can stuff your face with good 'cue alongside your fellow possessed souls. 705 Divisadero, S.F. (415) 931-7427.

Best Dessert Menu

And if it isn't barbecue you crave, it's probably something sweet, something

laden with butter cream, chocolate, powdered sugar, raspberry jelly — any and all of these things and more, in a welter of irresistible combinations. If you're whispering to yourself, **Sweet Inspiration**, then you're magically in synch with our readers, since that's where they go when they need to hit the sweet spot. 2239 Market, S.F. (415) 621-8664; 2123 Fillmore, S.F. (415) 931-2815.

Best Late-Night Restaurant

If you're out there prowling the night and you need to nosh, our readers have just four words for you (actually three, plus a number): **Sparky's 24 Hour Diner**. Like the name says, it's a diner. It's cool. Always open. Food easy to take out. Right there by the J Church and the F Market, so you can make your quick getaway, perhaps to watch the sun rise somewhere? 242 Church, S.F. (415) 626-8666.

Best Restaurant to Have a Conversation In

The restaurant conversation has been an endangered species in the last few years, what with all those incredibly noisy places catering to the point-and-click crowd. Apparently they found each other to be as boring and tedious as we found them, but now, with the great U-Haul exodus still under way, it's become possible to talk in restaurants again. Our readers like to yak it up in **La Méditerranée**, in between bites of dolma, hummus, and other such delicacies. Don't talk with your mouth full, though! 2210 Fillmore, S.F. (415) 921-2956; 288 Noe, S.F. (415)

431-7210; 2936 College, Berk. (510) 540-7773.

Best Splurge Restaurant

So your ship came in. You're flush. You could use a bite, and your beady-eyed friends expect you to treat them. You can't let them down, which means, according to the readers, that it's time to make a reservation at **Millennium**. The gang doesn't like grilled tempeh and other vegetarian marvels? Tough! You're paying. 246 McAllister, S.F. (415) 487-9800.

Best Bakery

Our readers would like **Arizmendi Bakery** even if it weren't worker-owned. They like the daily breads, the daily pizzas by the slice, the warm yellow walls, the handsome butcher-block fittings, the fabulous yeasty perfume, the cheerful staff. But it is worker-owned, so there's that much more reason to take your *boulangerie* business thither. 1331 Ninth Ave., S.F. (415) 566-3117; 3265 Lakeshore, Oakl. (510) 268-8849.

Best French Fries

Well, this is America, and we like our french fries. But this is also San Francisco, and that means we don't have to be reduced to getting them at McDonald's or Burger King or some other place like that, where the fries are every bit as industrially produced a product as screwdrivers or matchsticks. For a bit of the human touch, our readers recommend the fries at **Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers**.

Excellent veggie burger, too, we hear, for those looking for something to accompany the golden spuds on their way down. 4128 24th St., S.F. (415) 282-7770; 3344 Steiner, S.F. (415) 563-0307; 1591 Solano, Berk. (510) 526-8185; 1600 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 849-2827; 5819 College, Oakl. (510) 601-0444; 4162 Piedmont, Oakl. (510) 655-7180.

Best Organic Produce

Organic produce isn't just for weirdos and fanatics anymore. You see it everywhere, even in chainy-looking supermarkets. But our readers still say that the best place to pick up spray-free fruits and vegetables is **Rainbow Grocery**. You might also be tempted to try picking up some of the staff, since they tend to be cute — but no word on whether they're organically certified. 1745 Folsom, S.F. (415) 863-0621.

Best Independent Coffeehouse

Who would have believed that Starbucks, the Microsoft of coffee, would ever have managed to gain a foothold in the independent-coffeehouse-rich Bay Area? Even though it has (along with that other Seattle monster, Tully's), our readers know that the independent coffeehouse is still the place to go — and when the mood strikes (as it seems to most

mornings), they like to go to **Royal Cafe**. 94 Turk, S.F. (415) 776-7415.

Best Afternoon Tea

The English might be a little too wedded to the idea of boiling food, but their cuisine does have its occasional glories, one of which is the civilized late-afternoon ritual known as tea. If this appeals to you, follow our readers to **Lovejoy's Tea Room** for a sip of Earl Grey, a scone with some raspberry jam and double Devon cream, and a moment of peace. 1351 Church, S.F. (415) 648-5895.

Best Smoothie

You have to give **Jamba Juice** credit: its Starbucks-like saturation policy of placing a shop at practically every street corner in the city has paid off. When our readers want a big sugar-laden smoothie in an unrecyclable Styrofoam cup, it's the place they think of first. *Various Bay Area locations. www.jambajuice.com.*

Best Chai

A little tea, a little milk, a little spice, lots of sugar — are you getting the picture? We're talking about chai, of course, the tea-culture equivalent to the latte. And the best place to get one, say

Continued on page 31



Taste the revolution: Sue Lopez, co-owner and baker at the worker's cooperative Arizmendi Bakery, puts the finishing touches on the focaccia at the Best Bakery.

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- Check & top off fluids
- Inspect & adjust drive belts
- Lubricate door hinges & stops
- Inspect steering system
- Inspect under carriage
- Lubricate chassis if applicable
- Inspect tires for proper wear
- Adjust tie rod ends
- Rotate tires
- Visually inspect axle boots
- Inspect front & rear brakes
- Adjust parking brake if needed
- Inspect drive belts and adjust as needed
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- Inspect coolant system
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- Service battery
- Adjust clutch if applicable
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- Replace air filter
- Inspect tires for proper wear & inflation
- Rotate tires
- Replace spark plugs*
- Set carb idle mixture if applicable
- Inspect distributor cap & rotor
- Inspect fuel lines & hoses
- Replace fuel filter*
- Inspect heating & cooling system
- Check & top off fluids
- Inspect & adjust drive belts
- Lubricate door hinges & stops
- Lubricate hood & trunk latches
- Lubricate chassis
- Inspect windshield wipers
- Adjust clutch free travel
- Inspect front & rear brakes
- Adjust parking brake
- Replace brake fluid
- Adjust steering gear box
- Inspect axle boots & driveshaft
- Replace axle fluid
- Inspect for fluid leaks
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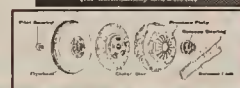
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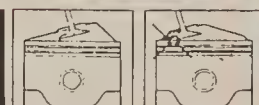
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We're Jeff and Tracy

We're Your Good Neighbors

We Smoke Pot

The United States government acknowledges that over 70 million American adults have smoked pot. That's one in three of your neighborhood doctors, grocers, college professors, police officers, computer programmers, postal carriers, engineers, business executives, and spiritual leaders. These pot smokers are your elected officials. They are your dearest friends. They are your family members.

Yet, contemporary Drug War advertising, which you fund with your tax dollars, insists that we are a threat to society.

We decided to run our own spot on the radio. We wrote the script which you see in the frame below. We shopped it around. On the Portland FM dial we were refused by KUFO, KNRK, KKRZ, KRCW, and KGON. In Seattle we were refused by KISW. In Bend we were refused by KXIX. (The latter station proclaims 4:20 to be the "happiest moment on Earth." Go figure.)

KUFO countered with an offer to sell us a booth at their summer Rockfest. They changed their mind when we accepted. This is the station that carries the Howard Stern show. They were afraid our message would "frighten mothers." Amazing.

Station by station, rock radio refused us, and it became clear that we faced opposition on two fronts. The Drug War and Censorship were allied.

We next contacted Obie Media, Inc., which handles Portland's public transit (Tri-Met) advertising accounts. We offered to buy banners on city buses and MAX light rail cars. These vehicles are owned and operated by the government. Surely, we thought, the government isn't allowed to censor this message. Yet we were refused. Obie Media cited vague Tri-Met policies. We asked them to put us in touch with the people at Tri-Met who administer these policies, but Obie has not provided us with any contact information.

So we figured, what the heck. Third down. Throw deep. The full page "open letter" in the daily newspaper is a time honored American tradition. We will purchase a full page advertisement in the Sunday Oregonian, write an open letter to the good people of Oregon, and tell our story. We naively thought that, of all the media, the city newspaper remained a bastion of free speech, and would give us our voice. Instead we were told: "We have reviewed your ad copy and find it unsuitable for publication in The Oregonian."

Radio, public transportation, and the press. Every one of these media accept money from the O.N.D.C.P., from the Partnership for a Drug Free America, and from similar organizations that support and promote the Drug War.

We applaud the San Francisco Bay Guardian, and Portland's Willamette Week, for their dedication to the American spirit. Thank you for printing our message.

Once upon a time, in 1773, a few brave patriots painted their faces, converged upon Griffen's Wharf, and hurled 342 crates of British tea into Boston Harbor. Paul Revere was there. Samuel Adams organized it. John Hancock was a tea smuggler, and actively supported it. Today, we venerate these men as heroes. They all broke the law, because the law was absurd, and deserved to be broken.

We passionately appeal to courageous Americans everywhere. Stand with us. Be seen and heard. It may be frightening to stare down the barrel of the largest and best equipped police force in American history, but it must be done. Peacefully. Respectfully. Do it for your friends. Do it for your family. Do it for freedom.

We're Jeff and Tracy. We're your good neighbors, and we smoke pot. We'd love to hear from you.

Please write to us:

tracy@jeffandtracy.com
jeff@jeffandtracy.com

www.jeffandtracy.com

1972 NE 3rd, #337
 Bend, OR 97701

TRACY: Hi. I'm Tracy.

JEFF: And I'm her husband, Jeff Jarvis.

TRACY: We paid for this spot with our own money, even though we can't afford it.

JEFF: We don't have a product for sale, we aren't running for office, and we aren't part of any political organization.

TRACY: We're just two regular people who smoke pot.

JEFF: Sometimes people say hurtful things without thinking. And even though you didn't know you were talking about me, it still hurt, to hear you call me a loser.

TRACY: And I'm sure you didn't know you were talking about me, when you called me the dark underbelly of society. But it hurt anyway.

JEFF: It's just 'nuts' that anyone would consider 'us' to be a threat.

TRACY: And it's sad that we should have to walk around looking over our shoulders.

JEFF: Do you remember the guy who stopped to help you, when you blew a tire, and you didn't have a jack? Well, that was me.

TRACY: And I was the woman who brought you a smile, and a fresh loaf of hot bread, when you moved into the house across the street. Are you sure you want to put us in jail?

JEFF: We're your good neighbors, and we smoke pot.

TRACY: Who do you love who smokes pot?

Who Do You Love Who Smokes Pot?

THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Readers' Poll

From page 28

Bay Guardian readers, is at that venerable purveyor of lattes, **Peet's Coffee and Tea**, in its many Bay Area locations. They just seem to have a way with milk, sugar, and caffeine. *Various Bay Area locations. www.peets.com.*

Best Draft Beer

Beer drinkers know that beer from bottles and cans sometimes tastes funny. Who knows when the brew got sealed in its little canister, even if some bogus, mysteriously coded "freshness" date is stamped on the outside? That's why aficionados like to know what's on tap. And our aficionado readers particularly like to ask this question at the **Toronado**. Better head you will not find in this town. 547 Haight, S.F. (415) 863-2276.

Best Margarita

Feel like getting saucy margarita-style? Then get yourself down to **Tommy's Mexican Restaurant** at 23rd Avenue and Geary for a margarita that'll knock your socks (and possibly all of your clothes) off. This Mexican eatery is owned by one of the nation's leading tequila experts, and you can order from a selection of 20 premium tequilas. Just don't try them all in one night. (Note to enthusiasts: The house margarita is made with Herradura Silver tequila.) 5929 Geary, S.F. (415) 387-4747.

Best Doughnuts

Our readers love **Krispy Kreme** for its fresh, glazed, yeast-raised doughnuts, which stores announce to their customers with a "Hot Doughnuts Now" sign. Krispy Kreme also makes more than a dozen other varieties of yeast-raised and cake doughnuts, real fruit pies, cinnamon buns, and several varieties of snack foods. *Various Bay Area locations. www.krispykreme.com.*

Best First-Run Movie House

Within a swirling, neon and blue-light vortex occupying half a city block resides the Loews Theatre at the **Sony Metreon**, San Francisco's hyper-modern downtown cineplex with five floors, 20 movie theaters, and Imax theaters. Chances are very good that you'll be able to find the latest Hollywood offering you're looking for; you'll definitely find a rooftop patio and lots and lots of electronic gadgetry, which makes the place resemble the set where Luke and Darth duked it out at the end of *The Empire Strikes Back*. 101 Fourth St., S.F. (415) 369-6200.

Best Rep Film House

The **Castro Theatre** is a cornerstone of San Francisco's cultural life. Whether it's the many great festivals that find a home there or the fantastic selection of cinema's finest moments, you would be doing yourself a favor by picking up a copy of the theater's calendar to find out what's playing next. Show up early to enjoy the renowned live organ music before most screenings. 429 Castro, S.F. (415) 621-6120, www.thecastrotheatre.com.

Best Local Theater

American Conservatory Theater has been one of the nation's top playhouses

City, and then it becomes the first modern company in the United States to build its own resident facility, complete with a school, a theater, and a gallery. ODC is an enduring gem of the S.F. arts scene and not to be missed. 3153 17th St., S.F. (415) 863-6606, www.odcdance.org.

Best Improv Company

BATS, a.k.a. Bay Area Theatresports, a.k.a. the Bay Area's best improv group for the fourth year in a row, according to our readers, represents spontaneous hilarity at its finest. Not many performers can, on request, make you laugh until you're in pain as they depict, say, an 11th-century knight

architecture, and design. Among current temporary exhibits is Joel Sternfeld's "Stranger Passing," a collection of 60 large-format color photographs documenting the diverse realities of U.S. culture, and "Revelatory Landscapes," a series of site-specific installations by five contemporary designers. The best times to go are Thursday evenings, when admission is half price, and the first Tuesday of every month, when it's free. 151 Third St., S.F. (415) 357-4000, www.sfnoma.org.

Best Art Gallery

111 Minna St. allows you to enjoy the art without the usual stuffy gallery atmosphere. It serves beer and wine and features lots of DJs and live music, a perfect complement to the viewing of fine art. The happy hours are quite popular among the downtown crowd. Wednesdays (5-10 p.m.) it's Qoöl Techno Happy Hour, and Friday (5-9 p.m.) offers another happy hour to start your weekend on the right foot. 111 Minna is also a great place to book a private party or other event, which can be arranged on Sundays and Mondays. 111 Minna, S.F. (415) 974-1719.

Best Free Art

In the rich tradition of the Mexican muralist movement, the Mission District is covered with brilliantly colored **murals** depicting everything from the labor struggle to the celebration of women's history. Many of these works pay homage to important cultural heroes such as the Zapatistas and Cesar Chavez. Famous sites include Balmy Avenue, between 24th and 25th Streets, Diego Rivera's *Pan American Unity* mural at City College of San Francisco, and the San Francisco Women's Building (3543 18th St.). Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center offers tours of the murals. *Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center, 348 Precita, S.F. (415) 285-2287.*

Best Place to Hear Live Rock

"San Francisco's oldest and grandest nightclub," the **Great American Music Hall** is the place to go for good food and a table to sit at while you enjoy the sounds of today's rock bands. Originally built in 1907, the hall now features a professional sound and lighting system, two full bars, a modern kitchen, and a spacious oak dance floor to blend contemporary quality with turn-of-the-century grace. 859 O'Farrell, S.F. (415) 478-2277, www.musichallsf.com.

Best Place to Hear Hip-Hop

Once again, our readers give top honors in this category to the **Justice**

League, which has been instrumental in putting San Francisco on the map in the hip-hop world. The lines wrap around the block for a reason: the top names in hip-hop continue to make appearances at this premiere venue. Go on in, feel the beat, and get down. 628 Divisadero, S.F. (415) 289-2038.

Best Jazz Club

A one-of-a-kind venue combining an awesome jazz club, a cocktail lounge, and a sushi restaurant, **Yoshi's** is the place to go for the finest jazz in the Bay Area. Its legendary calendar features everything from Afro-Brazilian to Cuban jazz to more traditional artists such as Jon Scofield (and later this season, Woody Allen on clarinet). With prior arrangements, your waiter can save your seats in the jazz club while you enjoy an exquisite sushi dinner at a table or in the shoeless tatami seating; you can bring your drink or food into the club when the show starts. The jazz club's seating and acoustics are amazing. 510 Embarcadero West, Jack London Square, Oakl. (510) 238-9200, www.yoshis.com.

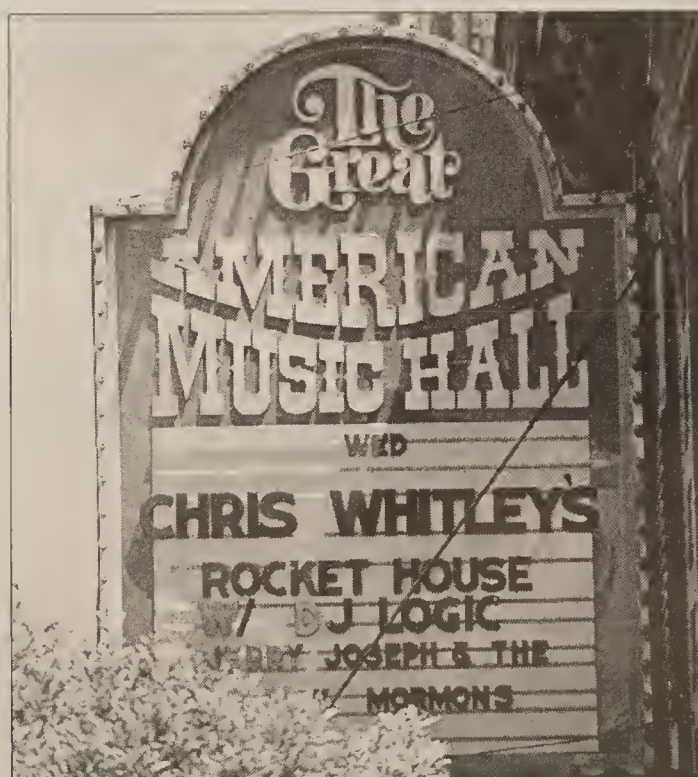
Best Salsa Club; Best Bar to Play Pool In

On Sundays our readers head down to **El Rio** for the best salsa action around. If you've never danced salsa, we suggest you show up at 3:15 for lessons. Sunny days are the best time to go, because the event takes place on an open-air patio. Sundays get very busy, so show up early to avoid the lines. A 21-and-over nightclub with no dress code, El Rio also combines several key factors of a great pool bar: dive atmosphere, multiple tables, free pool nights, and all sorts of flirtatious queers. 3158 Mission, S.F. (415) 282-3325.

Best Swing Club

Since it opened in 1931, **Bimbo's 365 Club** has hosted chorus girls (including Rita Hayworth, back when she was known as Rita "Bam-bam" Cansino), Iggy Pop, Jewel, Marvin Gaye, the Buzzcocks, and a CellularOne corporate gathering. Whether the occasion calls for class or seedy charm, the WWII decor seems to add the appropriate atmosphere for our readers. Bimbo's Swing Night has been huge and popular. Heck, it's doubled the cost of pomade and iron-on poodle futures. Unfortunately, Swing Night is not on the regular schedule at this time. The closest thing coming up is "Casino Royale" on July 27. 1025 Columbus, S.F. (415) 474-0365, www.bimbos365club.com.

Continued on page 33



An American tradition: Historical treasure the Great American Music Hall was voted the Best Place to Hear Live Rock.

for well over three decades. ACT is highly regarded by our readers for premieres as well as the classics. The theater also offers training for directors and actors of all ages. Now through Aug. 12 go see *Fool Moon*, a play that climbs the walls of the Geary Theater to a bluegrass beat and is sure to make you laugh. 415 Geary, S.F. (415) 749-2ACT, www.act-sfbay.org.

Best Local Dance Company

With a worldwide reputation for athletic, graceful, and witty style, **ODC/San Francisco** has been at the cusp of the dance scene both formally and in terms of its entrepreneurial savvy. First it flouts dance-world theory of 1976 by establishing itself outside of New York

impaling your brother on Martha's Vineyard for having raped you, but these intrepid improvisers are up to the task. And for those envious of their superpowers, BATS conducts improv workshops to boot. The group performs *The Iron Improvisor* Fri/27, 8 p.m., at the Bayfront Theatre. (415) 47-IMPRO or 474-8935 (for reservations and information), www.improv.org.

Best Museum

Founded in 1935 as the first West Coast institution devoted entirely to modern art, **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art** is a world-class museum with touring exhibits as well as a permanent collection that represents the best of modern painting, sculpture, photography,

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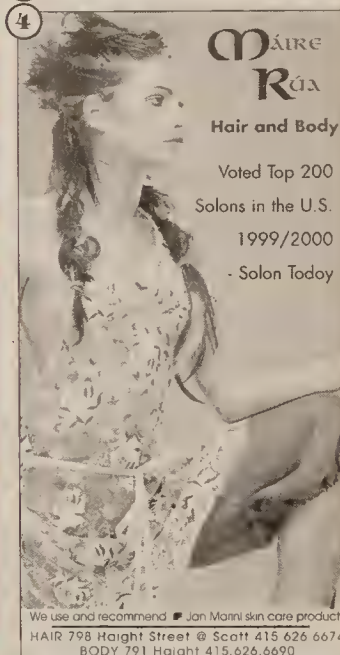
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THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Readers' Poll

From page 31

Best Dance Club

Ten 15 Folsom is massive. Each of its six rooms has a good or better DJ, an impressive sound system, a dance floor, and a bar. Some people complain about its meat-market vibe, but whether you enjoy watching the gym bodies dance onstage or just like grinding on a dance floor packed tight with cute young things, it hardly seems like something to complain about. In fact, why aren't you there now? Ten 15 is open past dawn on weekends. 1015 Folsom, S.F. (415) 431-1200, www.1015.com.

Best Retro Night

Our readers think it's time to remember the Reagan era and mix, in a strategically defensive kind of way, with one's brethren at **1984**, which takes place Thursdays at the Cat Club. Both rooms are kept packed by the DJs, who play enough nonstandards to keep it interesting — you might hear an Adam and the Ants number right after an AC/DC tune. The crowd is a great mix, representing everyone from old-school punks to skinny-tie Ric Ocasek wanna-bes. Cat Club, 1190 Folsom, S.F. (415) 431-3332.

Best Brew Pub

The Thirsty Bear has been receiving enthusiastic, drunken reviews since it opened in 1996, and our readers agree with them. Don't let the contented, American beer guts in the restaurant fool you: this place is very international. The beers are modeled after classics from around the world, the tapas are authentic, and the place is named after a Ukrainian circus bear who had a few too many. Our favorite beer is the Polar Ale, but the seasonal Bearly Legal Barley Wine makes a winter visit compulsory. The pub also offers group tours. 661 Howard, S.F. (415) 974-0905, www.thirstybear.com.

Best Bar

The lively **Who's Your Daddy** offers genuinely friendly bartenders and a well-received happy hour (Mon.–Fri., 5–8 p.m.). It has been described as a sports bar, an Asian bar, a pool hang-out, and more. This must be because everybody loves it. It offers a jukebox, karaoke (members only), pool tables, foosball, air hockey, and a good dinner. 655 Sutter, S.F. (415) 923-9090.

Best Pinball Machine in a Bar

Terminator 2! We don't know what it is about this game, which our readers enjoy playing at the Kilowatt. There's

comparatively little to "do": two ramps, one full circuit, a few pops, a dinky side chute. Yet it's so satisfying! There are so many explosions, the multiball start-up is clever, and the sound effects for the machine guns and motorcycle positively throb. Ultimately, its appeal must be owing to the samples of Arnold Schwarzenegger saying, "Get the CPU" and, of course, "I'll be back." And you will be back. Kilowatt, 3160 16th St., S.F. (415) 861-2595.

Best Happy Hour

It's not just a great amendment; it's a brew pub with a theme. **21st Amendment's** tasty beers are made from pre-Prohibition San Francisco brewery recipes. There's also a good but pricey restaurant and one of the most ingenious developments in modern education: beer school. Happy hour is from 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily,

Best Bar for Queer Women

Big surprise here! The **Lexington** wins hands-down. What with the kick-ass jukebox, wall-to-wall cuties, inexpensive drinks, pool table, and lack of competition, what choice is there? You're sure to go home either very lucky or overstimulated. However, if you're afraid of running into one of your exes, you should probably just go to a straight bar and talk to the unsatisfied-looking girlfriends there. Because if your ex is gay and in the city, there's a 42 percent chance she'll show up at the Lex. Men are welcome with a female escort. 3464 19th St., S.F. (415) 863-2052.

Best Bar for Bisexuals

POW! is just fun. There are jars of free candy on the counter, adorable boys and girls, Japanese anime decor, and

the inevitably hunky crowd. 3079 16th St., S.F. (415) 861-5757.

Best Bar for Heterosexuals

The perfect way to finish off a day in a new town is by riding away with a biker, and our readers can't think of a better place to make such friends than **Zeitgeist**. It's a fantastic dive, complete with a hotel upstairs, and yet it's also reasonably comfortable for those without tattoos, piercings, or leather garments. Heterosexuals just love it. 199 Valencia, S.F. (415) 255-7505.

Best Karaoke Bar

At the **Mint** our readers find a safe, cheesy environment for karaoke therapy. It has "Rose Garden" and pretty much any other song that would occur to the highly inebriated to sing. More important, there's a crowd of regulars

surprisingly few lineup changes. Unfortunately, its success has made local performances a rarity: the next is with Cal Performances at UC Berkeley Sept. 30. www.kronosquartet.org.

Best Local Jazz Band

Something about the keys-bass-drum format of **Om Trio** is music to our readers' ears. Call it a weakness for tight chops or a hunger for that funk fusion-meets-jazz standard sound, but Om Trio won its coveted position by a landslide. www.omtrio.com.

Best Local Hip Hop Group

Oh, the sweet sounds of "funxploitation" wafting from the ever popular **AwYeah!** to the eager ears of their groupies. From the AwYeah! hit "We Got the Booty" to the cover of Public Enemy's "Sophisticated Bitch" to the pleasantly offensive "Round the Back," AwYeah! caters to the discerning hip-hopper who has a taste for all things booty funk. www.awyeah.com/pages/bio.html.

Best Local Punk Band

Tasty as a bowl of grits, the **Tantrums** are self-described "punk-rocabilly" masters hailing from Alameda. Their sound is akin to a blenderful of punk, rockabilly, blues, country, early soul, and surf, and our readers think the resulting soufflé is well cooked and original, to say the least. hometown.aol.com/tantrumsc/ca/chihuahua.html.

Best Public Tennis Courts; Best Place to Sunbathe

Late-night lighting is one thing that sets **Dolores Park's** tennis courts ahead of the rest, even though they're not the largest. Who wants to quit working on his or her backhand just because it's dark outside? And when it's not dark outside? Sprawl out and suck up those carcinogenic rays in one of San Francisco's sunniest neighborhoods. 18th St. between Dolores and Church, S.F.

Best Place to Play Pickup Basketball

The best players gather at the **Panhandle** for the most consistent matches and the excess of sideliners ready for a game. Although an occasional fight has been known to break out, it's really just evidence of the connoisseurs' passion, so come ready for a real game of basketball. *Fell between Ashbury and Masonic, S.F.*

Best Hiking Trail

On a clear (and probably cold) day, one can see all the way to the Sierra Nevada

Continued on page 34



Line 'em up and knock 'em down: Bar and restaurant 21st Amendment features retro drinks and runs the Best Happy Hour.

with \$2.50 pints and \$3.00 yummy appetizers. It's right next to Pac Bell stadium, so avoid game days. 563 Second St., S.F. (415) 369-0900, www.21st-amendment.com.

Best Bar for Queer Men

Badlands was recently remodeled from a neighborhood dive into a swanky, cruisy, crowded dance club. The change has received mixed reviews. Most of the complaints have been directed toward the attitude and the video screens ("Omgod, they're so '80s"). However, it seems the Castro was in desperate need of another dance bar, especially with a rotating mirrored ball, because the place is packed. 4121 18th St., S.F. (415) 626-9320.

video games for consoling yourself on nights when you just cannot get a second glance from anyone. There are comfy chairs in the back for when you're feeling mellow. When you're not, go to happy hour (Mon.–Fri., 4–8 p.m.), try the hurricane, and see which way the DJ blows you. 101 Sixth St., S.F. (415) 278-0940.

Best Bar for Transsexuals

Esta Noche is a haven for sexy transvestites, and our readers know it. After all, what could be better than a Latino transvestite bar? Drag shows occur every night (Mon.–Fri., 11:30 p.m.; Sat., midnight; Sun., 7 p.m., 10 p.m., and midnight). At other times go-go dancers entertain

who will forgive you for singing it. If you go on Saturday or Sunday, prepare to be outclassed; these people practice. 1942 Market, S.F. (415) 626-4726.

Best Local Classical Ensemble

What has not been said already about the **Kronos Quartet**? The group is talented, innovative, and so famous it feels odd to call it local. Violinist David Harrington founded the group in 1973, inspired by George Crumb's anti-Vietnam War quartet Black Angels. (Harrington had just spent a year playing in a Canadian orchestra to avoid the draft.) Since then the K.Q. has recorded more than 400 new string quartets, released 31 original albums, been featured on many more, and had

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Park yourself here: How do we love Golden Gate Park? Let our readers count the ways. It won Best Place to Jog, Best Bike Path, Best Park, Best Place for a Picnic, Best Children's Playground, and Best Place to Spend 4:20.

Readers' Poll

From page 33

from **Mt. Tamalpais** without having to spend weeks clambering to the top. Not exactly a Kilimanjaro, the mountain's highest eastern peak tops off at 2,600 feet, making for a good day hike — you won't need to radio to base camp when an avalanche wipes out half of your crew. Wildflowers, bicycle trails, Stinson Beach, and hang gliding are a few attractions, if getting to the top isn't enough. *From San Francisco, take Highway 1 north to the Stinson Beach exit and follow signs up the mountain.*

Best Place to Jog; Best Bike Path; Best Park; Best Place for a Picnic; Best Children's Playground; Best Place to Spend 4:20

Always a favorite with our readers, **Golden Gate Park** wins over San Francisco's other parks by a mile. With ample trails and winding roads for jogging, all sorts of contraptions for kids to climb on and in (oooh, concrete slides!), roads to bike on (including the luxuriously closed JFK Drive on Sundays), lots of calorie burning is going on in this urban oasis. Of course, calorie consuming is also supported, and picnics are extra-pleasant next to the lake. So are all the activities you might indulge in at 4:20 that will make your picnic taste extra-good.

Best Place to Skateboard

With no shortage of platforms, steps, benches, and even artwork, the **Embarcadero** is our readers' favorite place to hurl themselves into the air

and call it skateboarding. There are even some areas that are close to tourist-free, making it an ideal place to break your wrist without people snapping pictures for their photo albums. Of course, you always land your stunts, so no worries. *The Embarcadero, S.F.*

Best Surf Spot

Infamous for huge swells, **Mavericks** has been testing the balls of even the most fearless big-wave hotdogs since local surfer Jeff Clark first paddled out in the 1970s. Prepare yourself for a few mouthfuls of foamy, tasty water and a wetsuit that will only be warmed after you lose control of your bladder trying to ride one in. *From San Francisco, take Highway 1 south and turn right onto Capistrano, left onto Prospect, right onto Harvard, and right onto West Point.*

Best Beach

Baker Beach, our readers know, is the best place to get sand up your butt, clothes on or off. Toward the north end the beach boasts nice sand, a nicer location, and the nicest tide pools, making this a good place to air your derriere — or keep it covered. Either way, remember your sunblock. *Western edge of the Presidio, off Gibson.*

Best View

Those subtly sexual mounds known as **Twin Peaks** offer a view our readers think is worth climbing those steep-ass steps for. Seen from the top, all five Bay Area bridges serve as eye candy for tourists and natives alike. There's a good view day or night, (think of the ambience, think of the make-out possi-

bilities), and there's also some actual wilderness up there, in case you've forgotten what nature looks like. *Twin Peaks Blvd., S.F.*

Best Video Game Arcade

For the skilled video-game fiend, **Sony Metreon** is the best, our readers say. After a few hours playing its interactive and immersive games, you'll be shocked to find out, as you leave, that real life isn't pixilated. (Sigh.) Celebrate your zest for life and all things dance oriented with a game of Dance Dance Revolution and get down to weird music as the game dictates your every move. And we remember when Super Mario Bros. was the shit. *101 Fourth St., S.F. (415) 369-6200, www.metreon.com.*

Best Campsite

Play pretend Gilligan's Island when roughing it at one of **Angel Island's** nine campsites, part of the not-so-remote wilderness a short ferry ride away. With 13 miles of trails to hike on and eight miles to bike on, you'll be happy to get lost. Although you won't be roasting weenies over the fire (no fires allowed), you will be provided with water and showers. Just don't tell Mary Ann — she'd probably hog all the hot water. *For information on the ferry schedule call Red and White Fleet at (415) 447-0597.*

Best Gym

Open all the time, **24 Hour Fitness** could be your home away from home. Offered are a plethora of machines to sweat all over, a chiropractor and mas-

sage therapist to help you forget all the sweating you did, and weight-loss programs and counseling to remind you why you wanted to sweat in the first place. *Various Bay Area locations. www.24hourfitness.com.*

Best Bike Shop

Winning over our readers yet again, helpful and knowledgeable employees with an impressive selection at their fingertips make **Valencia Cyclery** a much loved shop for both goods and repairs. *Sales, 1077 Valencia, S.F. (415) 550-6600; repairs, 1065 Valencia, S.F. (415) 550-6601.*

Best Independent Bookstore; Best Used Bookstore

A large selection of hardbacks and paperbacks, not to mention the hard-to-find, rare, and out-of-print books, make **Green Apple** a reader favorite by a long shot. The poetry selection is well versed, so to speak, and the rare cookbooks are worth looking at. You can sell used books and music here, too, if you need some funds with which to develop your library, and who doesn't? *506 Clement, S.F. (415) 387-2272.*

Best Comic-Book Store

The best in alternate and underground comics, **Comix Experience** satisfies the newsprint junkie in all of us. Prepare to spend a good chunk of time perusing

the collection, which includes more than 100 publishers. With its own monthly magazine and a subscription service, Comix Experience is for diehards and those working on becoming diehards. *305 Divisadero, S.F. (415) 863-9258.*

Best Newsstand

Whether it's the *New Yorker* or *Tiger Beat* you want, **Fog City News** is the place to get it. The impressive collection, set in a quiet, reading-friendly environment, took our readers' poll by storm. Sneak off on your lunch break and satisfy that nagging hunger to get inky fingers flipping through periodicals like a fiend. *455 Market, S.F. (415) 543-7400.*

Best Surf Shop

Our readers picked **Wise Surfboards** as the best place to acquire all the accoutrements necessary for a day of getting tossed around in the foam. The oldest surf establishment at Ocean Beach, Wise is the well-stocked grandfather surf shop of your dreams. *800 Great Highway, S.F. (415) 750-9473.*

Best Place to Buy Shoes; Best Place to Buy Athletic Shoes

While **Nordstrom** is a wide and wondrous haven of consumerism, its shoe department is what really sends



On top of the world: At the Best Place to Skateboard, a lone boarder conquers the cement steps of the Embarcadero.

reader hearts a flutter. Get a pair of sneakers and then a matching running suit afterwards! Purchase a pair of chartreuse heels and then some panties to match! One-stop shopping — joy of all joys! 865 Market, S.F. (415) 243-8500, 285 Winston, S.F. (415) 753-1344.

Best Place to Buy Camping Gear; Best Place to Buy a Backpack

Our readers approve of the wide selection of tasty add-water backpacking foodstuffs at **REI**, as well as the mammoth selection of outdoor equipment to covet and caress and the helpful staff to field your questions and wipe the drool from your mouth. Stock up before you head out into the wilderness, and leave the PalmPilot at home — we dare you. 1338 San Pablo, Berk. (510) 527-4140.

Best Place to Buy Vinyl; Best Place to Buy CDs

By now, **Amoeba Music** should have an ego to match its popularity, but it doesn't. The Bay Area is spoiled, considering we have not one but two Amoebas, and with the selection of new, used, and vinyl, the piggy bank is running scared. There is something for everyone's ears here, and it's open late, so come on Saturday night if you want to ogle the scene and on a weeknight if you want Zen focus while selecting your purchase. 1855 Haight, S.F. (415) 831-1200; 2455 Telegraph, Berk. (510) 549-1125.

Best Local Club DJ

A 1998 Goldie winner, **Raw B** can do no wrong. A DJ for the longtime radio show *Beatsauce*, Raw B is a prime component of San Francisco's hip-hop radio scene. Stand back and watch the man "speak with his hands." www.beatsauce.com.

Best Place to Buy Jewelry

San Francisco-based cooperative **Ruby Gallery** is the place where our readers go for unique adornments of all styles. Select artists work exclusively for the gallery, so you can be sure to leave with something (or several things) special. 3602 20th St., S.F. 1-877-595-RUBY, www.rubygallery.com.

Best Furniture Store

Oh, the frugal European sensibilities of **Ikea**, that veritable mecca of easy-assemble furniture acolytes everywhere. Trick out the apartment on the thrifty side and still come out with a pad that is blindingly urban. The warehouse probably frowns on people moving in, so bring strong friends to help you move purchases out. 4400 Shellmound, Emeryville. (510) 420-4532.

Best Hardware Store

A family business with a local history, **Cole Hardware** wins the hearts of readers yet again. Quality products and service, plus its drive to support the community by always recommending local improvement specialists, have kept Cole around and strong since 1959. 956 Cole, S.F. (415) 753-2653; 3312 Mission, S.F. (415) 647-8700; 70 Fourth St., S.F. (415) 777-4400.

Best Head Shop/Smoke Shop

Boasting a wide selection of paraphernalia for you to smoke that "tobacco" with, **Ashbury Tobacco** is the pre-puff destination of choice. A big pipe selection (glass, metal, water ...) and plenty of other tobacco-related goods, including a smorgasbord of cigarette varieties, cigars, and rolling papers, make this a well-stocked head shop indeed. 1524

Haight, S.F. (415) 552-5556, www.ashburytobacco.com.

Best Place to Buy T-shirts

Since clothing isn't optional everywhere (alas), our readers turn to the **Gap** when they need to cover their backs. And since there's a Gap practically everywhere you go, there's no excuse for shirtlessness, right? Various Bay Area locations. www.gapinc.com.

Best Place to Buy a Computer

A near spiritual experience lies within the walls of über-stocked **Fry's Electronics**, home to all things computer. Purchase a computer off the line, or purchase the components and build your own, then get some video games and lock yourself in your room with Lara Croft for the next month. Various Bay Area locations. www.frys.com.

Continued on page 37

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Readers' Poll

From page 35

Best Hauler

Its name conjures up images of a knight (and his truck) in shining armor, and **One Big Man and One Big Truck** can get you moved any day of the week. Specializing in smaller moves and catering to the roommate, studio, and one- and two-bedroom-apartment set since 1983, founder Fred Wallace and his staff have low enough rates and minimums to inspire the apartment hopper in anyone. Now you just have to find the apartment. 1407 Baker, S.F. (415) 931-0193.

Best Used Furniture Store

Simultaneously recycle and furnish an apartment with a trip to **Urban Ore**, the reused-merchandise monolith pushing consumers toward a "zero waste" age by taking in goods and giving them a second generation. Zesty interior design can turn a bread rack into a shelf or an old TV into a fish tank, ensuring your coolness quotient one recyclable at a time. 1333 Sixth St., Berk. (510) 559-4454.

Best Vintage Clothing Store; Best Online Store (local)

With zoot suits up the wazoo, **Siegel's Clothing Superstore** (and its Web site, www.zootsuitstore.com) is the place to outfit yourself with some fine vintage (or just vintage-looking) threads. Don't forget all those necessary accessories either: a double-stranded chain and French-cut dress shirt are instrumental. Not ready to make the zoot commitment? Just rent one; you can do that, too. Heck, picky hepcats can have their own suits made for them specially. 2366 Mission, S.F. 1-800-408-8933 or (415) 824-7729.

Best Pedicure

Whose feet don't deserve a slathering of warm lotion? **Silk Nail Salon** knows



Tripping the retro fantastic: Siegel's Clothing Superstore is more than just a bricks-and-mortar vintage clearinghouse. It exists in cyberspace, too, which is why it got voted both Best Vintage Clothing Store and Best Online Store (Local).

as much, seating you in a comfy chair with a drink as the pedicure begins. A variety of treatments can have you in and out before lunch hour is over, or there until you lose feeling in your massaged, rubbed, buffed, and polished feet. 1425 Franklin, S.F. (415) 885-3277.

Best Place to Buy Gifts

Funky gifts and knickknacks abound at **Wishbone**, our readers' favorite place to flock when in need of a gift with epic coolness to outshine all other gifts. Solidify your status as a must-invite on the guest list of the most discerning birthday boys and girls with rhinestone-studded wrist cuffs, sure to generate rapid-fire swooning. 601 Irving, S.F. (415) 242-5540.

Best Flea Market

Our readers can't think of anything more satisfying than a random find at the **Ashby Flea Market**. On Saturday and Sunday the Ashby BART station parking lot transforms into a homey-feeling market with artwork, Tibetan booths, Turkish rugs, tribal masks, and much more. A hot dog stand and live drums bookend a flea market experience worth having. 3100 Adeline, Berk.

Best Car Dealer

Our readers seem to love what **Toyota S.F.** does for them. With an extensive selection of new and used vehicles, Toyota impresses with its small-town

Continued on page 38

Sometimes it's okay to get framed

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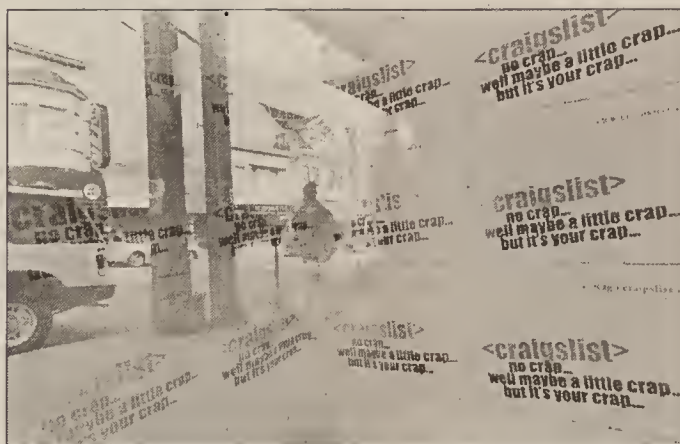
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THE 27TH ANNUAL



Craig's world: All of our local diversity is reflected on Craigslist, which won for Best Online Personals, Best Local Web Site, and Best Way to Find an Apartment.

Readers' Poll

From page 37

customer service and comprehensive Web site. While other mega dealerships offer a vehicular garden variety, Toyota focuses on one franchise and one franchise alone; this specialization means expertise and thoroughness. Look online for more details. www.sftoyota.com.

Best Car Wash

Touchless Car Wash has consistently dominated this category in Best of the Bay for good reason: it's fast, efficient, reasonable, and convenient, and it offers a decent cup of joe in the gift store. 444 Divisadero, S.F. (415) 621-8676.

Best Place for a Tune-Up

Bored sitting in traffic, you glance down and decide to finally pay some attention to the "check engine" light that's been flashing for as long as you can remember. **Shum's** makes it easy to get that pesky under-the-hood mystery fixed, offering good service and a quick turnaround. Your car does so much for you; give it a break and take it in for some tuning. 1301 Ocean, S.F. (415) 584-6655.

Best Tattoo Parlor

One of the five resident artists at **Black and Blue Tattoo**, Rocio expresses the parlor's passion when she says, "Art is my magic and salvation." This dyke-owned and -operated, independent venture provides a safe, comfortable haven for anyone who wants to be marked for life. The great atmosphere and supportive staff make the \$120-an-hour price tag worthwhile. Black and Blue also does piercings; add a hole while you nurse the new 'too. 483 14th St., S.F. (415) 626-0770, www.black-n-blue-tattoo.com.

Best Body-Piercing Parlor

Twelve years ago **Body Manipulations** was the only piercing parlor in San Francisco; it remains the best. The store holds your hand through the piercing process, explaining the steps and assuring you that body piercing is an easily reversible process. Um, just kidding. With a sister store in Amsterdam, Body Manipulations is great for the local and the traveler, the punk rock dyke and the soccer mom, the excited and the apprehensive alike. 3234 16th St., S.F. (415) 621-0408.

Best Place to Get Your Hair Cut

You do your best to support local retailers; you wear clothes only if they're secondhand, and you drink only non-Starbucks coffee. But even our socially conscious readers will sometimes get a cheap, fast new 'do at **Supercuts**. The San Francisco-based haircutting conglomerate has many Bay Area locations, seven in the city alone. Check out the Web site for the Supercuts in your vicinity. (415) 474-9652, www.supercuts.com.

Best Place to Buy Cult TV Show Action Figures

You might not think you need a Bionic Woman Barbie, until you walk into San Francisco's premiere TV trinket shop and hallmark of Castro stopping stops, **Uncle Mame's**. The remarkable and eclectic collection of campy memorabilia, from Mr. T postcards to Star Trek domes, will give you a serious itch for kitsch. Don't beat yourself up over selling your He-Man action figures at your family's garage sale more than a decade ago; Uncle Mame's can facilitate a reunion with Skeletor and company, and for a reasonable price. 2241 Market, S.F. (415) 431-6020, www.unclemame.com.

Best Romantic Restaurant

La folie means "craziness" in French, and the generous proportions of top-notch cuisine that chef Roland Passot serves up at this family-owned establishment certainly are insanely good. But it's not just the lobster salad and rabbit legs that distinguish **La Folie**. With its packed tables (think intimate) and painted-cloud ceiling, the atmosphere is best described as cozy. And darn romantic. Heck, even Zagat gives this place top marks. 2316 Polk, S.F. (415) 776-5577.

Best Chat Room to Make a Connection In

Sure, virtual get-to-know-you pickup scenes are now ubiquitous, and sure, your Internet escapades are bound to bring you in touch with some complete creeps. But it's also true that some chat rooms draw a more appealing crowd than others. Readers recommend **Yahoo! Chat**, so get your anonymous account and start schmoozing. chat.yahoo.com.

Best Online Personals; Best Local Web Site; Best Way to Find an Apartment

It's **Craigslist**: salvation to many, disappointment to few. This San Francisco-based online enterprise has expanded beyond job and housing listings to include sales and the inevitable personals. Craigslist is updated daily and wins points for its widespread popularity. Where would we be without Craigslist? We shudder to think. www.craigslist.com.

Best Place to Buy Wedding Gowns

Secondhand clothing can only enhance a special occasion, and that's why our readers decided **Goodwill** hunting, is the way to go when the wedding bells are ringing. There are nine San Francisco locations (the Haight Street one is a good place to start) and one slightly more upscale boutique in West Portal. Shopping at a nonprofit enterprise might alleviate some of that corporatized, expensive wedding guilt. www.sfgoodwill.org.

Best Leather Shop

"Forbid yourself nothing," dares the motto of **Stormy Leather**, a San Francisco institution with two locations in the city and a thorough Web site including an online newsletter, a complete catalog, and a mailing list. From corsets to collars, harnesses to headgear, you're bound (ha, ha) to have some wholesome Folsom fun with Stormy Leather. 1158 Howard, S.F.; 582C Castro, S.F. www.stormyleather.com.

BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Best Local Bed and Breakfast

We hope you'll stay at the **Rose Garden Inn** because you want and deserve a weekend getaway, not because you've been evicted or can't find a decent lease. Then again, being stuck in this picturesque Berkeley B&B surrounded by flower gardens might not be so bad. The inn is not small (the property actually consists of two mansions), but it still maintains a warm environment and excellent accommodations. 2740 Telegraph, Berk. 1-800-992-9005, www.rosegardeninn.com.

Best Lingerie Shop

Face it: neither you nor your girlfriend will ever look like a **Victoria's Secret** model, unless of course you start going out with Giselle. But that's no reason not to feel like satin in some lingerie of your own. For those who pretend not to notice the branch in their local outlet mall, the Web site has a store locator. Various Bay Area locations. (415) 433-9671, www.victoriasecret.com.

Best Flower Shop

Filled with lovely flowers of all descriptions, **Hoogasian Flowers** inspired our readers' thoughts of beauty, love, and all those things that the 19th-century romantic poets thought were extra-groovy. 615 Seventh St., S.F. (415) 229-2732.

Best Chocolate Shop

In 1983, when **Joseph Schmidt** started his shop in what he describes as "a little neighborhood," the former baker had some pretty crazy ideas about truffles. But when he invented the signature crispy-coated Joseph Schmidt truffle, his career took off. Now hundreds of stores carry his candy, but why not visit the stores where it all began in San Francisco? Check out his new, eye-catching mosaic truffles. 3489 16th St.,



We promised you a rose garden: At Berkeley's Rose Garden Inn guests are so wowed by the gardens and twin mock-Tudor mansions that they voted it the Best Local Bed and Breakfast.



Middle of the road: Our readers think the Best Place to Find Parking in the Mission is the median on Valencia Street, despite the risk of being towed.

S.F. (415) 861-8682; 2000 Folsom, S.F. (415) 626-7900.

Best Adult Video Store; Best Condom Selection; Best Place for Sex Toys

Who can resist dropping in at the fantastic, queer-friendly, feminist sex shop **Good Vibrations**? With two locations — one in Berkeley, one in San Francisco's Mission District — Good Vibrations has spent the better part of three decades providing the Bay Area with candy-colored vibrators, adult videos and books, and the friendliest, most sex-educated staff on the planet. 1210 Valencia, S.F. (415) 974-8980; 2504 San Pablo, Berk. (510) 841-8987.

Best Local Skin Mag

The **Spectator** is probably the only XXX-rated sleazy magazine that has also featured articles by some of the most well-respected minds in the sex community today. Queer, sex-positive activists such as Carol Queen and Pat Califia have written for the *Spectator*, and it's likely that if you pick the mag up for the sex worker ads, you'll end up reading a thoughtful essay about gender stereotypes. That's why the *Spectator* is a uniquely Bay Area institu-

tion. Available at select Bay Area bookstores and newspaper stands.

Best Erotic Web site

Once again, our readers have voted **www.erosguide.com** the best local Web site for finding everything from sex-education resources to a special friend for fun afternoon romps. www.erosguide.com.

Best Strip Club

Our readers adore the full-service experience of going to the Mitchell brothers' **O'Farrell Theater**. They can choose from a variety of live sex shows or just settle down into those cushy seats and watch the strippers go. Private rooms allow you to act out any consensual fantasy you like. 895 O'Farrell, S.F. (415) 776-6686.

Best Sex Club

Who could resist the multilevel **Power Exchange**, where gorgeous trannies rub shoulders with straight-edge business types, and gay boys come together (safely!) in a fantasy wilderness of tents and fake military barracks? Come to watch, play, or just ponder the meaning of sex. 960 Harrison, S.F. (415) 974-1460.

Best Glory Hole

Our readers know where to go when they need that lovin' feeling. By an overwhelming majority, **'My Place'** won as the best spot to get a bit of anonymous sexual attention. 1225 Folsom, S.F. (415) 863-2329.

Best Massage Parlor

The beguiling **Golden Dragon** won hands-down as the best place to get a sensual rubdown from thoughtful, *Continued on page 40*

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At the crossroads: It's a slow afternoon at Castro and Market, which our readers voted the Best Intersection.

Readers' Poll

From page 39

attentive massage experts. 136 Mason, S.F. (415) 986-9777.

Best Steam Room; Best Hot Tubs

For anything related to hot tubbing, steaming, and getting a healthy dose of heat, our readers prefer **Kabuki Springs and Spa**. Featuring a hot tub, a cold plunge, a steam room, and a dry-heat room, Kabuki Springs also offers facials and various kinds of relaxing massage. There's nothing better than a visit to Kabuki Springs when you need a mental and physical tune-up. 1750 Geary, S.F. (415) 922-6000.

Best Grassroots Political Movement

Our readers adore the **San Francisco Bike Coalition**. Fighting for the rights of bicyclists and working to make the bike an everyday form of public transportation, the coalition conducts campaigns to create more bicycle paths and alert drivers to bicycle safety, and it even publishes a regular newsletter. Bicyclists of the world, unite! 1095 Market, Suite 215, S.F. (415) 431-BIKE.

Best Post Office

The post office at **Rincon Center**, a majestic art deco building that was built in 1939, is covered with concrete reliefs, aluminum grilles, and limestone sculpture. The lobby boasts a huge mural that depicts the history of California. And you can buy stamps here, too! 101 Spear, S.F.

Best Muni Line

Let's face it: nobody is really excited about riding on Muni. Sometimes the experience is downright depressing. But the **F Market** line is one bright spot in every commuter's day. These fancy streetcars come to San Francisco from all over, and their antique-looking interiors make you feel like you're on some kind of European tour rather than just heading into the office for yet another meeting. Market Street, S.F.

Best Local Newscast

All of our readers get up early to watch the crack news team on KTVU's **Mornings on 2**. It's simply the best show for local items, breaking stories, and even silly tales of lost kittens. Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-9 a.m., KTVU, channel 2.

Best Local Radio Show

Weekday mornings on Alice 97.3, **Sarah and Vinnie** dish out dirt, crack jokes, and generally keep their listeners entertained, informed, and amused. Our readers can't get enough of this delightful duo. Mon.-Fri., 5:30-10 a.m., 97.3 FM.

Best Intersection

When we asked our readers what the best intersection in the Bay Area is, we had no idea what they'd say. It's a bit of a random question, since it's hard to judge what makes an intersection good or bad: is it the view, the population, the traffic lights? Our readers know what they like, however, and they voted overwhelmingly for an intersection that's clean, safe, pretty, and home to dozens of lovely establishments. Yes, **Castro and Market** won by a landslide. Castro and Market, S.F.

Best Place to Find Parking in the Mission

Our readers are smart enough to know a good thing when they find it, and that's why 9 out of 10 readers prefer to park in the **median on Valencia Street** when they're looking for a place to cool their wheels in the Mission. Sure it's not technically legal, but when everybody's doing it, it's hard to resist. Plus, there's nothing more fun than sitting in a Valencia bar and watching the tow trucks clear out an entire block of the median in about 10 minutes flat. It's not just a parking space; it's a parking adventure! Valencia Street, S.F.

Best Recycling Center

They come and get your garbage every week, and they also pick up your curb-

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side recycling. Yes, it's **Sunset Scavenger**, your friendly neighborhood garbage collectors. If you like their low-cost, excellent service, why not leave a nice, cool six-pack of beer out for them next to the recycling box sometime? They'll appreciate having it when they get off work. *515 Tunnel, S.F. (415) 330-1300.*

Best Police Station

Once again, our readers have voted the **Mission Police Station** their favorite spot to be detained, report a crime, or use the (clean! safe!) public rest rooms. Although police officers get a bad rap sometimes, the fact is that most of them are decent folks trying to help the city run more smoothly. Our readers give a big shout-out to the officers of the Mission. *630 Valencia, S.F. (415) 558-5400.*

Best Local Author

Like millions of people all over the world, our readers think **Amy Tan** is one of the best writers publishing today. And she's also one of our home-girls. Famous for such books as *The Joy Luck Club*, which was made into a movie by homeboy Wayne Wang, Tan recently delighted the literary world with a new book, *The Bonesetter's Daughter*. She's best known for her intense family melodramas set in contemporary Asian America.

Best Professional Sports Team

It's the **Giants**. Need we say more?

Best Neighborhood for Sidewalk Sales

You could spend a whole weekend or just a lazy Sunday afternoon picking over the wares at sidewalk sales in quiet, friendly **Noe Valley**. Known for its young families, lesbian group houses, and upscale bohemian property-owners, Noe Valley offers treasure hunters quite the garage-sale selection. On any given weekend you might find anything from almost-new furniture and a cocktail set to an electric guitar.

Best Dog Park

These days it's hard for a dog owner to find a good place to walk his or her pet. A lot of parks are anti-canine, and that leaves precious few spots for the pooches to mingle and run free. **Duboce Park** is a puppy haven — dog friends from all over come to toss the ball around, play Frisbee, and chat with their fellow dog-loving humans. There's even a doggie drinking fountain and a container where you can get free bags to

pick up your pet's errant poop. *Duboce and Fillmore, S.F.*

Best Street Fair

Although the Bay Area is home to dozens of enticing street fairs, our read-

ers agree that nothing quite matches the salacious grandeur of the **Folsom Street Fair**. Held every year in September, this all-day festival commemorates and celebrates the leather community, whose erotic rebelliousness helped define what it means to be a sexual outlaw. With live

performances, educational resources, and lots of wicked paraphernalia on sale, the Folsom Street Fair truly is the place to see and be seen in your finest fetish regalia. This year's fair takes place Sept. 30. *Folsom St. between 7th St. and 12th St.*

Best Gas Station

There's something about **ARCO**, and whatever it is, our readers love it. Visit your local ARCO station to find out what makes this chain the best place to buy gas. *Various Bay Area locations. www.arcogas.com.*



San Francisco's Tenderloin is home to hundreds of young children living in shelters and cheap hotels.

To keep jobs and permanent homes, their families depend on childcare. As you might expect in this neighborhood, there's not enough of it.

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Expiration date _____ Phone _____

Signature _____

Compass Community Services, 942 Market St., 6th Floor, SF, CA 94102

Tenderloin Childcare Center

Change a child's life.
www.compass-sf.org
(415) 399-9406

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SHOPPING

GUARDIAN PHOTOGRAPHS BY NATASHIA FUKSMAN



THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Trashy chic

By Cicely J. Sweed

I love free stuff. Actually, I take that back. I love cheap but chic stuff. Don't get me wrong. I'm a sucker for free stuff just as much as the next person, and in a country where most of us have bought into the marketing scams like "free gifts with purchase," fast-food "supersize meal deals," or "buy-one-get-one-free" specials that proliferate like viruses in every shopping destination from Marin to Modesto, it's easy to fall prey to the never-ending pursuit of wringing every last cent out of the almighty dollar.

I haven't always had an appreciation for trashy chic. As a matter of fact, I was born with expensive taste. Back in the day, as an Afro-puff-sportin' kid, I insisted that only the best of everything would do. The number of times I put my helpless mother through shopping excursions from hell are too numerous to mention. To this day, vivid memories of search-and-rescue missions through the racks of Nordstrom, J.C. Penney, and Bullocks in an attempt to find the latest pair of Jordache jeans, Kangaroo rainbow-hued sneakers with the zipper pockets on the sides, or that nifty Izod crewneck sweater to add to my ever-expanding collection haunt me like flashbacks from a bad preppy acid trip.

But if I've learned anything from 10 years of living in San Francisco and scouring nearly every secondhand proprietor, freak boutique, department store, trendy shop, and downtown street stall that this city has to offer, it's that San Francisco is king when it comes to offering a unique brand of cheap shopping that never sacrifices substance for style. If I had a dollar for every time I passed up the opportunity to snag that almost-new mahogany futon while walking through the Haight to meet friends for drinks at Club Deluxe, or failed to purchase a kitschy piece of abstract art from the street vendor pushing yesterday's trash in front of Dalva on 16th Street, I'd be a rich woman. But until that happens, I'll settle for turning other people's discarded goods into newfound trashy treasures.

So I've decided that the only solution is to become a connoisseur of cheap, while holding true to my sense of chic. Trashy couture, retro home furnishings, discarded classics of the Western canon — all have become mine for the taking. Not only have I felt no shame in sporting a pair of vintage Christian Dior shoes that I

found on a street corner, or snagging a discarded copy of Kerouac's *On the Road* out of a random cardboard box because I decided that I needed to read it again, but on numerous occasions I've even been caught lugging home pieces of semi-functional furniture that I scored while walking around town during San Francisco's infamous (and now defunct) big-trash nights.

I recently moved out of a rent-controlled, minimally furnished box of a room in the Lower Haight to a small, expensive studio in Berkeley. I found myself left with the daunting task of having to purchase the basic amenities of modern living without breaking the bank, and I realized that broken-down pieces of furniture and random street collectibles weren't gonna cut it. My long-gone preppy self and her "only the best will do" fairy threatened to rear their ugly heads once again.

Luckily I discovered that the Bay Area is ripe with bargain-shopping haunts that can please both the penny-strapped hipster and the "I wish I had a trust fund" dreamer in all of us — as long we're willing to set our sights beyond that yellow-and-blue dome of mass-marketed hip in Emeryville.

The biggest thrill of bargain shopping is in the hunt. There's nothing like the sense of instant gratification and accomplishment you get when you finally score just the thing you've been looking for — like a pair of Eames-style night tables — and get it for next to nothing. I have found affordable treasures at the neighborhood Goodwill and St. Vincent de Paul (designer outfits and swanky furnishings have been known to share the floor with polyblend granny dresses and Tupperware). But the coolest knickknacks and essentials are to be had at what could be considered one of the most positive results of the dot-com crash: yuppie yard sales! Let's face it — if you're looking for quintessentially cool, cheap shit like handblown vases and antique candleholders, the most logical solution is to buy it from those who had the cash to purchase it at full price.

Also, the Bay Area is host to no less than seven flea markets, including four in San Francisco alone. I've found everything from antique collectibles (Alameda Point Antiques and Collectibles Faire) and Turkish rugs (Berkeley Flea Market at Ashby station) to cheap yet stylish furniture (Alemany Flea Market) and old-school beauty products (NorCal Swap Meet). And

Oakland and Berkeley are home to some of the best-kept secrets in the Bay Area: salvage yards! By going right to the supplier, you cut out the middleman, namely those swanky, overpriced San Francisco retro-furniture boutiques (X21, the Other Shop, Mickey's Monkey, etc.), and get first dibs on generous selections of galvanized desks, chairs, filing cabinets, and other industrial-strength delights for the urban dweller. And with everything priced to move, Berkeley's Urban Ore and Omega Salvage and Oakland's Salvage Yard and San Pablo Flea Market give those swankier shops a run for their money.

After a few months of wheeling and dealing with the pros at some of the Bay Area's eclectic flea markets, secondhand shops, and salvage yards, I've come to realize that the traits of a good bargain shopper are similar to those of a seasoned traveler. Here are a few pointers I've picked up along the way:

Rise early At flea markets the best selections are usually available before the maddening crowds appear, when the merchants have just unloaded the latest treasures from their trucks and are gearing up to sell their wares.

When in Rome ... The best way to learn how to bargain shop is to watch the pros work their magic. You will not only pick up tips on how to barter and get the item you want at the right price but also learn how to spot a deal in the making and know when you should walk away.

Keep an open mind To be a good bargain shopper, sometimes you have to be prepared to get your hands dirty, literally, as most salvage yards are filled with piles of dusty treasures just waiting to sparkle after a bit of Comet and a coat of paint.

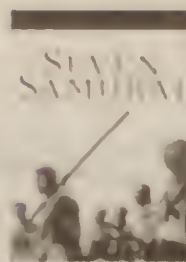
Take chances When was the last time you ventured off the beaten path? Sometimes the best deals are found when you're willing to check out the most unlikely places.

Follow your instincts The best bargain hunters know when to listen to their gut. If there's an item that you just can't resist but are having trouble figuring out how to fit in with your existing setup, get it anyway. Items that you love will always find their rightful place.

Fear nothing And last, most bargain shoppers are not afraid of cheese. Have you been to Target lately? Hey, don't knock it before you've tried it.

Happy shopping! ❖

spot on for movies



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Akira Kurosawa

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\$19.95
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Nights of Cabiria

on sale

\$19.95
\$14.95 (suggested retail)



Jean Renoir

Grand Illusion

on sale

\$19.95
\$14.95 (suggested retail)

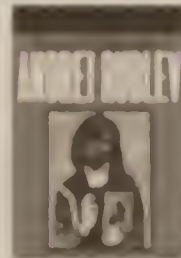


Jacques Tati

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\$19.95
\$14.95 (suggested retail)



Andrei Tarkovsky

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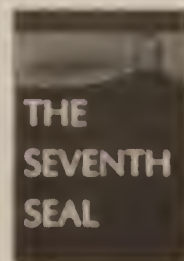


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Ingmar Bergman

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I am an island: Owner Joe Franke scans the stock at Axis Records and Tapes in Alameda, the Best Place to Get Your Punk Rock Fix If You're Stuck on a Desert Island.

Best Neighborhood Bank for Friendly Service

You can't beat the **Bank of Canton** for its good service and community pride. Aside from providing valuable financial services to the Chinese immigrant community of San Francisco's Richmond district, it also gives out calendars at Christmas and Chinese New Year presents every year: umbrellas, tote bags, even clocks. Often you can choose your own present. Most important, there are *no* ATM charges ever. 2533 Noriega, S.F. 681-5333.

Best Window Display

When we're too broke to pay for a movie and tired of people-watching,

we know we can spend a good chunk of our afternoon staring in the front window of **Held Over**. When we first stumbled on the vintage-clothing shop's storefront, the housing shortage was hitting the city with a closed fist, forcing many of us to pick up an extra job or two to keep a roof over our heads. To wit, window stylist Janay Rose displayed a line of nattily dressed mannequins before a sign reading Apartment, \$5,000, No Kitchen. Since then Rose has filled her installation space with ladies dressed in wedding-cake dresses, a girl rock band, trashy Christmas partygoers passed out from too many martinis, and a group of Schlitz-drinking revelers trying to catch their food, which had grown legs and tried

to run away from their picnic. None of those, however, compete with our favorite display so far, which featured a prom-night scene in a women's restroom full of partying mannequins caught on the pot. It's worth a trip up the tourist-cluttered Haight just to check out the window's latest incarnation, and the store itself features a great selection of hep used clothing. 1543 Haight, S.F. (415) 864-0818. *Styled by independent stylist Janay Rose, (510) 652-4962.*

Best Place to Meet Nice People

If you happen to step past the domino players and scooting kids that populate the Haight-Fillmore intersection and journey into **Rooky**

Ricardo's Records on a Wednesday afternoon, you would witness motherly co-owner Jerri Thompson and a handful of her Lower Haight neighbors learning the latest dance from a couple of schoolgirls in uniform. If you come in on Saturday, you would get a hug and a big hello from its other owner, Dick Vivian (a.k.a. Rooky). And on a Friday, you can witness the two of them in a battle-to-the-death game of hearts on your way to use the open-to-the-public bathroom in the back of the store (all they ask is a 10¢ donation to cover cleaning supplies). Their overwhelming kindness is almost enough to distract you from the 50,000 soul, jazz, funk, and rock 45s that fill the store, most of which are available at a bar-

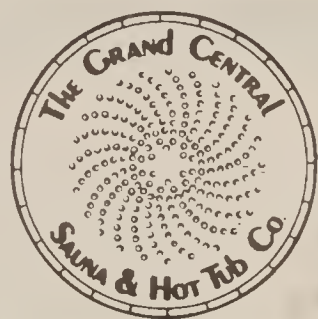
gain three-for-\$5. You can also buy a few dance lessons from Vivian, who is an expert on every craze dance from the lindy to the electric slide, or a custom-made, 60-minute mix tape of your favorite soul, gospel, or blues songs. Singing lessons for kids, condoms for grownups, and advice for friends are always free. 448 Haight, S.F. (415) 864-7526.

Best Place to Get Your Punk Rock Fix If You're Stuck on a Desert Island

Among shady, tidy streets and quaint shopping areas, the tiny city of Alameda's got a zit on its face: **Axis Records and Tapes**. Thank god. For

Continued on page 46

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Shopping

From page 45

the last three years, the island's punk rockers have been able to get a fix without venturing far, while others of us actually have a reason to go to Alameda now. Need the latest AFI CD? Used Ramones vinyl? A Misfits T-shirt? Ozzy doll? Toys, comics, used videos, books, magazines, patches, posters — Axis has an eclectic array of stuff you won't find at Tower or Virgin. Free past in-stores have hosted live performances from bands such as Plan 9, the Tantrums, Bobby Joe Ebola and the Children Mcnuggits, Subincision, the Ugly Bastards, and even Wesley Willis's Tourette's-like outbursts. 1431A Park, Alameda. (510) 864-8682.

Best Ikea Alternative

Imagine an Ikea store in which every item was personally designed or chosen by Hello Kitty herself. That's (sort of) what you'll find at **Kyun**, the first U.S. branch of the popular Asian retail franchise. Like Ikea, the store focuses on function: you'll find useful kitchen gadgets, dishes, vases, plastic dishpans, gift wrap and gift boxes, desk supplies, and tons of storage containers in every size, shape, and material. But each product at Kyun also has a distinctive Japanese vibe, either in its elegantly simple design or its silly, colorful anime style (or even both at once). Best of all, everything in the store is priced under \$5. If you're a person who engages in "retail therapy" — finding that a kicky, new lime green wastebasket or a polka-dotted pencil cup compensates for the indignities of daily life — this is the perfect place to indulge that habit cheaply. 280 Metro Center, 51 Colma Blvd., Colma. (650) 756-8089, www.kyunusa.com.

Best Place to Buy Hip-Hop on Hot Vinyl

Like a little jewel box for the world's choicest hip-hop cuts, **Open Mind Music** is filled to the brim with the rarest grooves, cutting-edge underground, and old-school classics that'll have even the most stoic DJ giggling under his or her terry cloth Kangol. Its shelves are devoid of the filler that clogs the bins of most other record stores, leaving a selection so thoroughly good that a chimpanzee could shut its eyes, randomly select 10 records, and still put together a killer set. If you doubt your instincts, you can listen to anything you like, new or used, on the store's four listening stations or ask questions of hip-hop buyer Kevin Koga, who has personally listened to every track in stock.

Right now you can find J-Live's LP *The Best Part*, cheap re-presses of Nas's "Life's a Bitch," or Gangstarr's "Positivity," and the city's best selection of underground, independent, and white-label cuts. We've also found a great stash of breaks and beats in the rare grooves section, which is always full of the latest import reissues, funk compilations, and blaxploitation soundtracks. 342 Divisadero, S.F. (415) 621-2244.

Best Small-Mall Alternative

Malls may be soulless, but they're so darn convenient. Happily, in a city like San Francisco you can sometimes find an equally convenient cluster of real, unique, full-of-personality stores — like the little shops that stand shoulder-to-shoulder on a sunny half-block of 22nd Street near **Guerrero**. Start at Urban Mercantile, a soothing housewares oasis where everything seems to be either white, off-white, or very pale ecru. There's a well-edited selection of top-quality towels, sheets, vases, and kitchenware. Then move on to Lemonade, a friendly shop filled with vintage and funky things for the home and garden. (Several dozen red-plastic theater-marquee letters just beg to be taken home and used to spell out a personal message.) Finally, there's Flirt. Handcrafted handbags grab one's attention here, but there are plenty of other girly items like jewelry, greeting cards, slippers, and nifty wire wall sconces holding glass-bottle flower vases. (And just try to resist the Flirt-logo tank tops on a hot afternoon!) Shopping done, you don't have to collapse at mall food-court hell — instead, step into the Liberties for a cool Guinness and a burger or a salad or fish-and-chips. *Urban Mercantile*, 3420 22nd St., S.F. (415) 643-6372; *Lemonade*, 3416 22nd St., S.F. (415) 285-8734; *Flirt*, 3412 22nd St., S.F. (415) 648-1469; *The Liberties Irish Bar and Restaurant*, 998 Guerrero, S.F. (415) 282-6789.

Best Grocery Store with Free Baby-Sitting Service

It's one of those suburban amenities that makes city dwellers turn asparagus-green with envy: a store that lets parents park their kids for up to an hour and a half so they can shop in blissful silence. "Mollieland" at **Mollie Stone's Market** in San Bruno is a clean, well-supervised playroom for kids 2 to 12, with sweet grandmas handing out coloring pages and helping the kids take turns at the computer games. There's an ID bracelet system for security, and closed-circuit screens throughout the store let parents peek at their children while pick-

ing out pomegranates. Mollieland is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week. Mollie Stone's is a full-size, full-service grocery with an emphasis on high quality, with prices likewise on the high end. But factor in the free baby-sitting, and the store's prices seem pretty reasonable. 22 Bayhill Center, San Bruno. (650) 873-8075, www.molliestones.com.

Best Place to Buy Medical Porn

In a neighborhood packed with chichi interior-design stores, **Swallowtail Interiors** stands out because it looks like a mad doctor's office. Much of the furniture looks as if it should have out-of-date magazines piled up next to it. The walls teem with weird charts and "visible man" diagrams of the human circulatory system. You'll find row upon row of heads covered with phrenology diagrams, instructional hands for palm reading, and stacks of books like Manson's *Tropical Diseases*. And you can pluck real artificial eyes out of a bowl to take home. The tons of old clocks and the occasional piece of classical or Asian statuary only make the ensemble look more like an eccentric practitioner's lair. 2217 Polk, S.F. (415) 567-1555.

Best Place to Buy Liberace's Castoffs

An aging drag queen should buy out **Interior Vision's** inventory and furnish her boudoir. Everywhere you look gold lamé, sequins, pearls, and tassels hang down and envelop you in a glamorous haze. Where else does an art deco vanity keep company with an upside-down minaret hanging from the ceiling? Chandeliers dangle from every available space as well. The atmosphere is floral, with silk flowers covered in fake dew and mock tapestries draped everywhere. Dozens of stuffed animals flank a life-size motorized nutcracker soldier made in France in the 1880s. You'll find chinoiserie alongside flapper wear. The owner strives to create the appearance of a home, instead of a store, but the end result resembles a dissipated dowager's estate sale. What makes Interior Visions so great is that all of its wares are so tasteful and over-the-top at the same time. 2206 Polk, S.F. (415) 771-0656.

Best Customer-Service Fix

One visit to **Gary's Cleaners** is better than two weeks of Prozac. Gary knows his customers so well that he'll remember you a year after your last visit and ask about your work, your relationship, or your new leather

Continued on page 49

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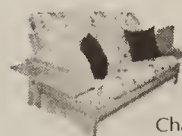
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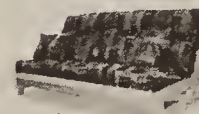
Chair \$119
Twin w/ Ottoman \$189
Love Seat w/ Ottoman \$209
Full \$189
Queen \$209

BOSS



Chair \$109
Twin w/ Ottoman \$179
Love Seat w/ Ottoman \$199
Full \$179
Queen \$199

EURO



Chair \$89
Twin w/ Ottoman \$159
Love Seat w/ Ottoman \$179
Full \$159
Queen \$179

TANGO



Chair \$129
Twin w/ Ottoman \$199
Love Seat w/ Ottoman \$219
Full \$199
Queen \$219

VENICE



Chair \$159
Twin w/ Ottoman \$229
Love Seat w/ Ottoman \$249
Full \$229
Queen \$249

TESTAROSSA



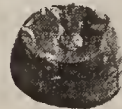
Chair \$199
Twin w/ Ottoman \$279
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SAVANNAH HARDWOOD BED



Twin, Full or
Queen \$199
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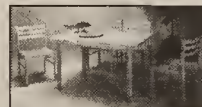
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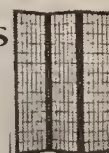
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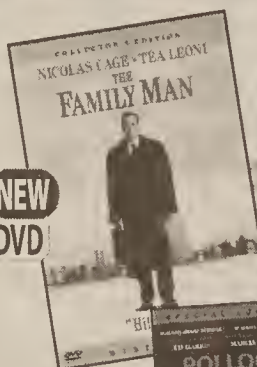
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THE NATION'S ORIGINAL



Love Courtney's: Yalith Fonfa smiles with the knowledge that Courtney's is the Best Place for \$2 Irises and Fresh-Squeezed Juice.

Shopping

From page 46

jacket. Once he said to us, "You look hungry. Let me get you a sandwich." He served us root beer and roast beef on rye. We dined while lounging on the couch in the front room as he bagged our clothes. Gary rocks. 1782 Haight, S.F. (415) 387-2035.

Best Place to Get a Deal on Dot-Com Remains

At **Weirdstuff Warehouse** the army surplus of your childhood meets the high-tech geekdom of your now. Due to the beauty of recycling, you can meet your hardware needs for less. If you're like us and tend to lose things easily, you'll gravitate toward the boxes of remote controls. The sentimentally inclined seem attracted to the stacks of AppleII Plusses. For eBay collectors, piles of Frisbees with the logos of once-flush start-ups abound. But Weirdstuff Warehouse is more than a museum of Silicon Valley created by the plummeted NASDAQ. When a company upgrades, its less-than-state-of-the-art equipment often finds a home here, where it can more easily find a home with you. In our foolish youth we once frequented CompUSA in search of a deal. As we matured, we learned of the mecca known as Fry's. Now that we know about Weirdstuff Warehouse, we only go to Fry's for kicks when we're drunk. 384 West Caribbean Dr., Sunnyvale. (408) 743-5650, www.weirdstuff.com.

Best Place to Take a Number

If you're looking for an extra, extra virgin olive oil to complete an *insalate Caprese* or maybe salt-packed anchovies to top off the perfect Caesar salad, well then, take a number. **Lucca Ravioli** may have the most sought-after Italian foodstuff, but the customer-service policy is not about meritocracy. The excellent service you receive isn't about who you are or who you know; it's about the queue. Just as you wonder if they're hand-packing the mortadella for the customer ahead of you, it's your turn. When the same Tuscan attention is then paid to you, you remember the wait only as if it had been the delivery of your firstborn: sure it was painful, but look what you got for it. Besides, there is plenty of in-store amusement: the three-foot jar of antipasti kept us entertained for a good 20 minutes. 1100 Valencia, S.F. (415) 647-5581.

Best Gifts for Revolutionary Infants

Dedicated to fair trade and social responsibility, **Casa Bonampak** is the kind of place you can feel good about patronizing. But avoiding consumerist guilt isn't the only reason to head to the friendly Latin American gift shop and copy center. It carries a full line of Zapatista dolls for those activist kids on your gift list. The wool and cloth dolls come complete with black masks and (optional) wooden guns, and are available as miniature and five-inch figurines and

key-chain ornaments. If the toys don't do it for you, you can show your support for the cause by picking up a Zapatista magnet, pin, or even an adult-size black hood, just like the one Subcomandante Marcos wears. 3331 24th St., S.F. (415) 642-4079, www.casabonampak.com.

Best Place for \$2 Irises and Fresh-Squeezed Juice

When we first went into **Courtney's**, the corner produce store at 14th Street and Castro, we fell in love. Irises for \$2 and freesias for \$2.99 wooed us. Then we discovered the great fresh-squeezed juices in flavors such as watermelon and orange-mango and the selection of unusual sandwiches, including the artichoke-salad one for just \$2.50. Pure paradise. Perhaps the store is in a time warp — it's the Brigadoon of corner stores. Fearful that it would disappear the way the magical town does in *Brigadoon*, we watched Courtney's carefully. They are still there. Patrick Courtney and his wife, Lola, have been running the store for 32 years, providing great produce at a great price. In a world of overpriced corner stores, where you usually leave grumbling, Courtney's is a mystical kingdom indeed. 101 Castro, S.F. (415) 626-1850.

Best Place to Go Clothes Shopping for \$1.25

As Is is not for the fainthearted thrift shopper. It is not for those looking

Continued on page 52

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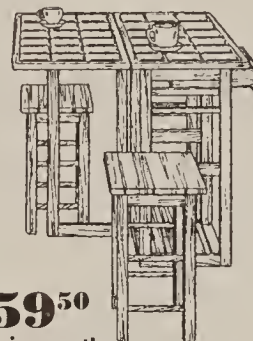
\$49⁵⁰

Natural-finish hardwood 26"x32"x36" bentwood chair with dark-blue padded cushion. CUN113743



\$49⁵⁰

Compact older-finish 45"x19"x37" computer desk with slide-out keyboard. NFB114839



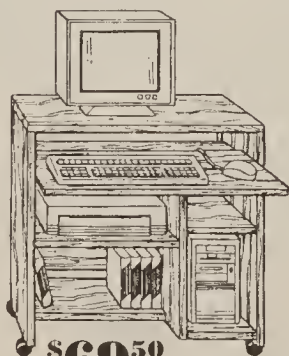
\$59⁵⁰

3-piece set!
Space-saving tiletop 28"x16"x33" counter dining set with drapleaf, drawers, and stools that store inside. NLV118297



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Chair and ottoman!
Solid-eucalyptus Adirondack chair and comfy ottoman. RRJ115330
Finish as leave natural.



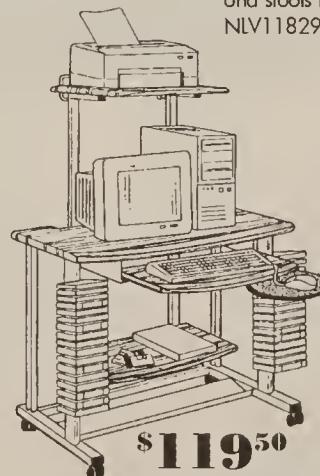
\$69⁵⁰

Practical beech-finish 32"x20"x34" computer cart with slide-out and keyboard drawer. PFD117841



\$79⁵⁰

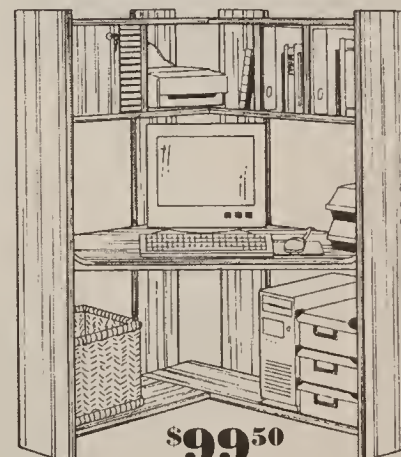
Maple-finish (PFP116465) or wenge-finish (PFP116294) melamine 48"x13"x35" castored room divider. Matching 48"x13"x77" cube wall unit, \$149.50.



\$119⁵⁰

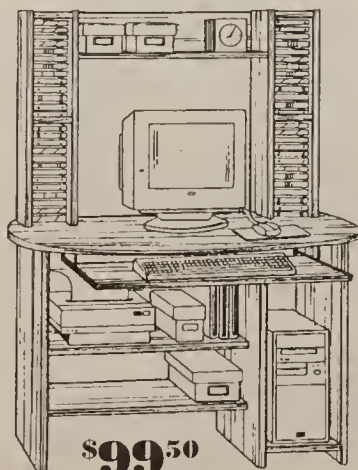
Sleek castored beech-melamine and grey-metal 38"x24"x54" workstation with CD storage. NHK120413

These items are ready-to-assemble for quick and easy pick up.



\$99⁵⁰

Sturdy space-saving 41"x41"x63" beech-melamine corner computer desk with locking cabinet and loads of storage space. RFD118811



\$99⁵⁰

Maple-finish 43"x24"x57" computer desk and hutch with lots of storage area. RFD120774



\$179⁵⁰

5-piece set!

Beech-finish 40"-round table with chrome legs plus four matching rabbit chairs. RMA127804. Set of four chairs in beech or black, \$119.50.



\$169⁵⁰

Roomy 60"x60"x36" maple-finish desk with sturdy satin-silver metal legs. NFD126865

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WESTERN ADDITION

BY JENNY BITNER

GUARDIAN PHOTO BY MELISSA BARNES

A less expensive, less trendy neighborhood, the Western Addition has been changing in the past few years to someplace considered desirable (read: *evictable*). But this is just the latest in a series of changes that make it the neighborhood of continuous displacement. After the earthquake in 1906 many people moved to this area, since it was left relatively undamaged. The neighborhood had a large Japanese population until World War II, when much of that social cohort ended up in internment camps. During the war a largely African American population moved in, and the Western Addition has been at the heart of the African American community since then. Many African Americans were forced out by urban renewal, which displaced approximately 20,000 people, demolished thousands of Victorians, and destroyed the Fillmore jazz district. In recent years the neighborhood has been becoming trendier and has attracted lots of real estate speculation. The onetime site of the Church of John Coltrane is now a hipster women's clothing boutique.

But much that makes the Western Addition unique survives. Along Divisadero Street you'll find plenty of enterprises that keep this neighborhood from blending into the rest of the city, including great barbecue restaurants, a reggae shop, African American churches, barber shops, and interesting community performance spaces like 848. Group houses of artists and writers, brought here by slightly lower housing prices, abound in this neighborhood, but during the recent rent boom many long-standing group houses got forced out, including my house of six people — where one roommate had lived for 13 years. Let's say it's just the latest chapter in the same old story: the one with the money gets the land. Let's hope that those who managed to stay keep putting good juice into the community.

Best New Surreal Creative Space

It's hard to say exactly what the **Red Roaster Room at Café Abir** is. It's an Internet café, yes, but it's also a multimedia design studio, a place for music incubation, and a place for birthday parties. Café Abir, long a neighborhood favorite, seems to be perpetually in the process of reinventing itself. Yes, it provides superstrong coffee, bagels, pastries, a new dinner menu with pastas, and a magazine-newspaper shop, but the newest addition is an online café where you can surf the Web in a moody, cool environment, complete with computers that look like shrines. The Red Roaster Room (named after the big red coffee roaster) is also adding a new gallery series. The price tag is a flat fee of two bucks, and for that you can use the computers and all the electronic gadgetry, including digital video-editing equipment and CD-ROM burners, and get expert advice from manager Andy Harris, who has 15 years of I.T. experience. Harris describes it as a tide pool, where things flow in and out. Recent projects include musician Eric McFadden's digital video, which he created here. If you have a great idea for a digital or Internet project but need some encouragement, the Red Roaster Room is the perfect place to channel your creativity. 1300 Fulton, S.F. (415) 567-7654.

Best House for Wild History Lessons

The old **Westerfield House** at the corner of Fulton and Scott Streets has a wild history. Often erroneously called the old Russian embassy, it was really a Russian social club in the 1920s, and a Russian restaurant called Dark Eyes was once located in the basement. Marchese Guglielmo Marconi, inventor of the radio, conducted radio experiments from the tower. The home was also



Out visiting: From left to right, Nash, Charles, Jim MacDonald, and Trumpet sit in John Lee Hooker's booth at the Boom Boom Room, which is the Best Place to Remember the Old Fillmore District.

a hippie commune and is mentioned several times in Tom Wolfe's *Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test*. Manson family member Bobbie Beausoleil lived here in a commune with experimental filmmaker Kenneth Anger, and some of Anger's films were shot in the house. Anger and Anton LaVey also performed magical rituals in the tower. Now it's home to store owner and music promoter Jimmy Siegel, who runs an electronic-music radio station, Thump Radio, from the house and is lovingly restoring it to its Victorian grandeur, including marble fireplaces and authentic wallpaper. If these walls could talk, they would give one crazy-ass history lesson. 1198 Fulton, S.F. No telephone. Please do not ring doorbell.

Best Finger-Lickin' Barbecue

When my friend came to visit from Virginia she made a special trip to **Brother-in-Laws Barbeque** the night before she left and froze some ribs for the flight home. Now that's dedication to barbecue. And considering she comes from the South, where the ribs are known to float to your mouth singing, Brother-in-Laws' must be good. Like they always say, it's in the sauce, in this case a hot-sweet blend of liquid goodness — take plenty of napkins. Chicken, ribs, or beef brisket, along with corn muffins, greens, or baked beans — all served in a no-frills atmosphere. 705 Divisadero, S.F. (415) 931-7427.

Best Place to Remember the Old Fillmore District

The **Boom Boom Room** on Fillmore hosts some of the old greats of blues, boogie, and jazz in a small-club atmosphere. With the recent death of owner and blues great John Lee Hooker, it's an appropriate time to pay tribute to the blues and remember that musical icons like Alberta Adams and Sugar Pie DeSanto are treasures who won't be around forever. 1601 Fillmore, S.F. (415) 673-8000.

Best Performance Space Still Holding On

848 Community Space is what the city is (or should be) all about: community action and wild creativity. Started 10 years ago as a community practice and performance space, it's been used heavily, with 387 events hosted or produced here in 2000. The building was recently sold, and the group is in danger of eviction, but they're still performing their mix of dance, spoken word, and music and have events scheduled through at least October. Everything from a rock opera on love to a Radical Fairies film festival has been seen at this space. S.F. greats like Keith Hennessy

and Annie Sprinkle have performed here, along with a slew of other, yet-to-be-famous artists doing what they love. Determined not to be lost to the great sweep of artist spaces, 848 has been looking at ways to keep together even if it has to move and has recently fused with another nonprofit, Bay Area Center for Art and Technology. Check out the performances while they're still in the neighborhood. 848 Divisadero, S.F. (415) 922-2385.

Best Restaurant in Which to Conceive a Novel

If a small cookie could help Marcel Proust reach the literary heights he did, perhaps the menu at **Caffè Proust** can inspire you. An eclectic mix of people, including Goths, a Burning Man crowd, and locals, come to this spot, which has interesting Proust-inspired artwork on the walls and plenty of books to read while relaxing on the couches. Head to the restaurant for its literary mood and good food. The Italian and Mediterranean menu is reliable and reasonably priced. My personal favorite is the vegan portobello mushroom scallopini, but the steak frites is awesome if you're doing meat. 1801 McAllister, S.F. (415) 345-9560.

Best Place for Private Music Stardom

If you wanna be a star but you don't have the nerve to get up in front of everyone at karaoke (and sometimes the other singers at karaoke are semiprofessionals), then a karaoke room is your dream. At **Do Re Mi Music Studio** you can rent a soundproof room with a karaoke machine for \$20 an hour and sing to your heart's desire, and nobody (except maybe your friends) will make you stop. 1604 Post, S.F. (415) 771-8884.

Best New Restaurant with Soul

OK, they sell soul food, but the soul in two-month-old **Glad Hut African and Soul Food Restaurant** seems to be oozing from the owners and the staff, who make you feel like you just stopped by their kitchen for a nice African meal. Started by a native San Franciscan and a West African native, Glad Hut serves dishes that adroitly blend elements of African and African American soul food. Choose from African offerings like damuda (spicy chicken and beef with peanut-butter sauce) and tilapia (a whole fish with a spicy sauce) or traditional soul food like fried chicken, Cajun catfish, and smothered steak. The restaurant's stretch of Fillmore isn't the best, but it's hoping it can bring some change to the neighborhood. This is just the kind of warmth and local enterprise that this area needs. 1109 Fillmore, S.F. (415) 922-5540. ❖



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Shopping

From page 49

for the perfect, blue 1950s cocktail dress or clothes that are sized, marked, or clean. It is for the serious thrift-seeker and people with a low income. All of the clothes are \$1.25 at this store, which is operated by Goodwill and stocked with overflow and unsold items from its other stores. The homeless and the thrift divas line up side by side to sort through piles of clothes heaped in tubs. New clothes are brought out seven or eight times a day, and that's when it gets serious. The rules are tough, and there is a military feel: when new clothes arrive, customers are not allowed to touch them until they have all been brought out. The assistant manager explained, "That's to keep people from fighting and wrestling over a minimum amount of clothing. So there isn't a free-for-all." Our experience is that if you keep to your own area and don't grab too much, you should be safe. The store gives you the feeling of genuine treasure hunting. People have been known to leave with fantastic vintage dresses, great wool sweaters, and cool corduroys — all for chump change. 86 11th St., S.F. (415) 575-2197.

Best Place to Buy Porn Without Feeling Like a Scumbag

If all you want is a wank, or maybe to rub yourself with something that

vibrates, why does it have to be so difficult? Why do all the stores have to be in dirty alleys with cardboard over the windows? Sure, you could use the anonymity of the Internet, but wouldn't it be nice if you had some customer service? Well, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus, and she's called **Good Vibrations**. Not only does Good Vibrations feature a full line of sex toys, including an in-house brand that is staff-designed, but they've also got all of the other necessary ingredients for a healthy sex life: condoms, lube, seminars, naughty pictures, workshops, and erotica. With the staff-recommended video selection, you're guaranteed not to face the same old boring videos that make sex seem about as exciting as data entry. Furthermore, our source on the inside (we will resist making the obvious "deep throat" reference here) tells us that Good Vibrations has just expanded its business by creating a video-production arm, Sexpositive Productions, and purchasing Passion Press audio. So now they'll be bringing quality and respect to their own original pornography as well. Now that sounds like a great way to gear up for National Masturbation Month in May. 1210 Valencia, S.F. (415) 974-8980; 2504 San Pablo, Berk. (510) 841-8987, www.goodvibrations.com.

Best Place for Really Weird Comics

If you're interested in advancing your comic book collection beyond



Spider-Man, Batman, and the rest of the pajama crowd but you're a little intimidated by the literal reams of experimental and outlandish underground art, then **Comic Relief** is the right spot. What's difficult about finding weird comics is knowing which ones are right for you; they're all unique. Well, the staff at Comic Relief is expert at solving that dilemma. After asking just a few polite questions, the bearded, spectacled gent running the shop can point out five comics that are perfect for your needs. When you visit make sure to introduce yourself to the store cat, a black, sleek little thing with Cleopatra eyes and a proprietary air who greets the customers with a wink, a purr, and a smile. 2138 University, Berk. (510) 843-1530, www.comicrelief.net.

Best Place for Kinky Board Games, Weirdo Role-Playing, and Harry Potter Puzzles

It's cold, foggy, and raining a little, but the traffic is still as bad as ever, which means it's worse, because drivers won't respect the wet roads half as much as they should. In short, it's a perfect night for a board game. If only you'd thought ahead. This summer, if you buy one thing in preparation for the cold, damp, blurky winter ahead, make sure you get it at **Games of Berkeley**. Far from dooming you to the same old games you wore out in your youth, a visit to this shop will

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OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL



Please sleaze me: When you need something wilder than checkers, check out Games of Berkeley, the Best Place for Kinky Board Games, Weirdo Role-Playing, and Harry Potter Puzzles.

open up a panacea of playthings, from the mundane to the erotic and everything in between. On the mundane end, you can pick from all manner of Monopoly games, including *Star Trek*, NFL, National Parks, and Pubopoly, just to name a few. *Star Wars* Monopoly and Trivial Pursuit are available, and Clue now comes in a *Simpsons* version, with Bart as "Prof. Plum" and Krusty as "Col. Mustard." More original offerings include a San Francisco trivia board game and Philanthropist, "the unique game which immerses you in one of the richest collections of Western European Painting in the world." When you want to get your role-playing buddies together, there is a wide-selection of RPG booklets and war-gaming figurines. There is even a place downstairs where they let the gamers gather. And, for more intimate game playing, adult titles include *Dirty Minds*, *Fan the Flames*, *SEXsational*, *Two to Tango*, and, disturbingly enough, *Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus* — *The Game*, 2151 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 540-7822.

Best Herbal Buzz

Forget about all of those trendy energy drinks that claim their "power" derives from ginseng. When you look at their labels, caffeine is generally far ahead of ginseng in the list of ingredients. To really experience ginseng, you've got to go a little

further afield than Safeway. In fact, you have to go to **Tung Tai Ginseng**. Amid the stretched lizards and sliced deer antlers, you'll find ginseng roots selling for as much as \$330 a pound. Luckily, you don't need much. A few shavings are enough for multiple cups of tea that will make your fingertips tingle and your brain vibrate. Just to the right of the front entrance is a ginseng shredder, in which you can get your ginseng processed; you don't want to have to go home and slice up rock-hard ginseng with your own knife. Take the shredded ginseng and boil it in water for 5 minutes, let it sit for another 10, then strain, drink, and enjoy. Ginseng prices vary depending on quantity and quality, but \$5 will get you a good sampling. 1142 Grant, S.F. No phone.

Best Place to Fetishize Fruit and Vegetables

The first time you walk into **Berkeley Bowl**, you might mistake it for just another natural foods store, but you'd be wrong. Not only can you get olives from the cheapest olive bar around, but there are also good, inexpensive wines, cheeses, baked goods, grains, and beans. Head past the fish counter and you'll find what seems like the largest produce department in the world. It might take a few moments to adjust to the mounds and mounds of fruit and

Continued on page 55

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Shopping

From page 53

vegetables. People blindly bump into one another while searching for key limes or in-season Bing cherries or organic purple cabbage. Every sort of fruit and vegetable imaginable — more than 800 varieties in all — lines the wide area. And the produce, including the plethora of organic items, is definitely affordable. We've been known to get stuck in front of the pears trying to decide which of the six kinds would be the tastiest. Not only is the Berkeley Bowl the best grocery store around, but also the friendly staff's ability to memorize the different prices of all the produce is a feat to behold in itself. 2020 Oregon, Berk. (510) 843-6929.

Best Kitchen Fantasy

Dvorson's Food Service Equipment Inc. is full of kitchen items that have little to do with practicality or even reality — things like 60-quart pots, ladles that hold a half gallon, stoves that are almost seven feet wide. Those are especially surreal objects if you're a person who just cooks for yourself and your partner. But we love restaurant equipment. It's a turn-on. And Dvorson's is the place for those of us who fantasize about all the fabulous cooking gear that's found only in restaurants or multimillion-dollar homes. The store is huge, and the warehouse is even larger. Plus, there's free parking. Josh and Mel, the owners, are patient and helpful, even for those of us who are only looking and dreaming of the perfect kitchen. They have a large selection of cooking utensils and appliances that are appropriate for the home, and there's even a wedding registry for those people who want their gifts to have that commercial-equipment quality. Personally, we would love a Wolf Challenger range for a wedding present. And if you don't have time to visit the store on Mission Street, check out the Web site: it takes you on a tour of the store and catalogs a lot of the big cooking stuff along with prices and photos. Whatever turns you on. 1366 Mission, S.F. (415) 861-5840, www.dvorson.com.

Best 'Green' Dry-Cleaning

Dry-cleaning is a nasty, environmentally unfriendly process that uses carcinogenic solvents and generates air pollution and toxic waste. But there is a guilt-free alternative to wash-and-wear. **California Oak Cleaners** can "wet-clean" almost all of your cherished dry-clean-only garments. Wet-cleaning is a new technique that combines special detergents and sophisticated computer controls with water

washing to produce an environmentally friendly alternative to conventional dry-cleaning. Believe us, this is not something you can do at the Laundromat. But in the hands of the good folks at California Oak, your rumpled, stained blazer will come back as clean as new without touching a drop of solvent. 4721 Geary Blvd., S.F. (415) 386-6766.

Best Last Stand for Standard Gasoline

The gas station at the corner Pine and Van Ness looks like any other Chevron station, with its blue-and-white color scheme and red-white-and-blue Chevron logos. It also acts like one — they take Chevron credit cards and dispense Chevron gas. But all of the signs read Standard instead of Chevron. (Bet you never noticed!) No, it's not borderline trademark infringement. Standard was Chevron's old brand name. After the switch in the early '70s, a few stations retained the Standard brand for vague legal reasons. Most have since shut down, but the Van Ness station continues to uphold the great Standard Oil tradition as the only Standard station in the Bay Area, and perhaps even in California. 1501 Van Ness, S.F.

Best Store for Vintage Paperbacks

Some people blow the money for the baby's milk at the bar or the horse track. We drop it at **Kayo Books**. Conveniently located across the street from the apartment where Dashiell Hammett wrote *The Maltese Falcon*, Kayo is one of the premier vendors of vintage paperbacks on the Pacific Coast. This is the place to drop a wad on the first printing of William Burroughs's *Junkie* or the Jim Thompson paperback originals. But you really only need to appreciate postwar and pre-Reagan American popular culture to love Kayo Books. The overwhelming majority of its thousands of vintage books and magazines will run you less than a new paperback at Stacey's. And frankly, we'd rather read Fredric Brown than James Ellroy, and the October 1948 issue of *Good Housekeeping* looks a lot better on our coffee table than the current issue of *Wallpaper*. 814 Post, S.F. (415) 749-0554.

Best Place to Buy Australian Stuff

No, they don't sell great big knives. But **Australia Fair** does have pretty much anything else you want from Down Under, from plush koalas and kangaroos to the most amazing selection of jodhpurs and non-Western

cowboy hats in town. We especially like the oilskin stockman's coats — they just look so dry! — and the sturdy Blundstone boots. The small food section in back is a little more daunting; we didn't know they even grew tea in Australia, and we have no interest if finding out just what Vegemite is. But we can heartily endorse the Cherry Ripe chocolate bars, a tasty concoction of chocolate, cherries, and coconut that puts domestic bars to shame. 700 Sutter, S.F. (415) 441-5319.

Best Back-from-the-Dead Newsstand

Magazine junkies of San Francisco, rejoice! **Harold's International Newsstand**, the best newsstand in San Francisco, is back in business. Although the latest incarnation is smaller than those previous, it still stocks more magazines and newspapers than any sane person would believe exist. From *Business Weekly* to the *Brutarian*, from *Details* to *Dishwasher*, you can find it here. And Harold's doesn't just have magazines and newspapers in languages we can't read, it has 'em with characters we can't even decipher (Farsi? Serbo-Croat?). The stock is still a work in progress: last time we were in, the staff was working on getting confession magazines and more literary journals. But already, it's the place to go for that obscure newspaper or magazine in San Francisco. 454 Geary, S.F. No phone.

Best Cross-Genre Used Bookstore

Are you a space opera fan with a secret hankering for cozy mysteries? A hard-boiled private-eye buff with a weakness for hobbitry? A cyberpunk who loves Sherlock Holmes? Then you should be shopping at **Elsewhere Books**, the specialty used-book store that puts mysteries and science fiction on an equal footing. While Elsewhere Books may specialize in older titles and collectible editions, old here doesn't necessarily mean expensive. You can drop a wad on a nice first edition — or a couple of bucks on an old paperback. There is no shortage of books priced for casual browsers interested in extending their tastes beyond the usual contemporary suspects to the old, unusual, or simply classic writers. 260 Judah, S.F. (415) 661-2535.

Best Place for Cheap Used Books

With used-book stores folding like dot-coms and the selection at local thrift stores becoming increasingly spotty and expensive, times are tough

Continued on page 56

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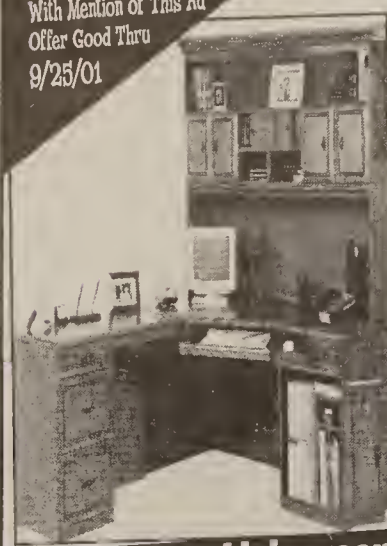
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THE 27TH ANNUAL

Shopping

From page 55

for the budget-minded book lover. Fortunately, the **Friends of the San Francisco Public Library** is filling the void. No, you don't have to wait until the big September sale down at Fort Mason. On the first Friday of every month (weather permitting), the Friends hold a "Mini-Sale" on the steps of the Main Library. A few thousand books, none over \$1 — it's your carte blanche to go hog wild. Yes, you can have bulging bookshelves and rent money too.

Best Place to Outfit Yourself for Your Trip to Uzbekistan

The window displays at **Get Lost Books** are in themselves enough to make armchair travelers drool on the plate glass, an ever-changing assortment of witty multiculti books on travel and world culture. Step inside the store, however, and you might as well give Continental your credit card number because you won't be able to stop yourself from planning a trip. Wander both floors, running your fingers over the gleaming spines of thousands upon thousands of travel books and imagining the spot for your Next Great Adventure: Capri? Chad? Chile? Even the most obscure of destinations are represented in Get Lost's ample stock. Outfit yourself with a book or two, a map, a round-the-neck wallet. And don't forget to ask the staff for their advice on your new travel playground — if a place exists other than in your mind, you can bet the well-traveled Get Lost-ers have been there. 1825 Market, S.F. (415) 437-0529.

Best Place to Play Antiques Roadshow

In the weeks before the annual **Oakland Museum White Elephant Sale** local thrift vultures trade information back and forth on the potential pickings like junkies waiting for a big score to blow into town. The same thrifters, antique hounds, vintage-store owners, and other fans of the used and groovy start lining up outside the sale as early as 5 a.m., and hundreds are in line by the time the doors are thrown open at 9 a.m. What's the White Elephant sale have that Goodwill doesn't? A Wal-Mart-size floor of breathtaking bargains culled from closets and attics, all at reasonable prices. Incredible '20s suits for \$15? Bakelite jewelry for a fraction of its worth? Discarded art deco glassware at cut-rate prices? No wonder the most aggro elbow one other out of the way to get their hands on the loot. Or maybe they're just excit-

ed that they're helping the Oakland Museum. The sale is held first weekend in March; donations are accepted year-round. 333 Lancaster, Oakl. (510) 536-6800. To donate call (510) 839-5919.

Best Jeans That Will Fit Your Big, Fat Ass

A pair of skinny Levi's or droopy-drawered Diesels may look great on the young and slim-hipped (and to the depths of hell with you all), but ladies of a more generous build are generally out of luck when jeans shopping, cursed to wear jeans that fit like the skin on a sausage. That is, unless you have \$100 to drop on a custom-made pair from local outfit **JeanGenie**. Visit the Web page, pick a style and color, input your measurements, and the San Francisco husband-and-wife outfit that runs the joint will whip you up a custom-made pair of jeans that fit better than your own skin. JeanGenie co-owner Mike Franko, who runs the business out of the Frankos' Portrero Hill basement, says the majority of the women who order the jeans are either too petite, round, or tall to fit into standard sizes comfortably. So rest assured Franko's seen measurements weirder than yours. (415) 642-2929, www.jeanguenie.com.

Best New Clothing Store for Women

Minnie Wilde, which opened May 5, is more affordable than the vast majority of its Hayes Valley counterparts. That's not to say it's cheap — but \$60 is almost reasonable for an adorable A-line skirt in teal suede. It's just one of the original pieces designed by the store's two owners, Terri Olson and Ann D'Apice. Minnie Wilde offers a dizzying array of brightly colored halter dresses, as well as a sprinkling of vintage items. And several messenger-style bags on sale here prove that red leather can be harmoniously paired with fabric from antique kimonos. 519 Laguna, S.F. (415) 863-WILD.

Best Street to Comb for Exotic Bath Products

Whether you're after schmantzy shampoo, peach witch hazel, or a candle that really truly smells like fresh figs, there's a **stretch of Castro between Market and 18th Street** you should check out. Two standouts stores are Bare Necessities and Skin Zone. Bare Necessities has a more intimate feel, suggesting that each luscious soap was handpicked by a very discriminating shopper, while Skin Zone boasts an unparalleled



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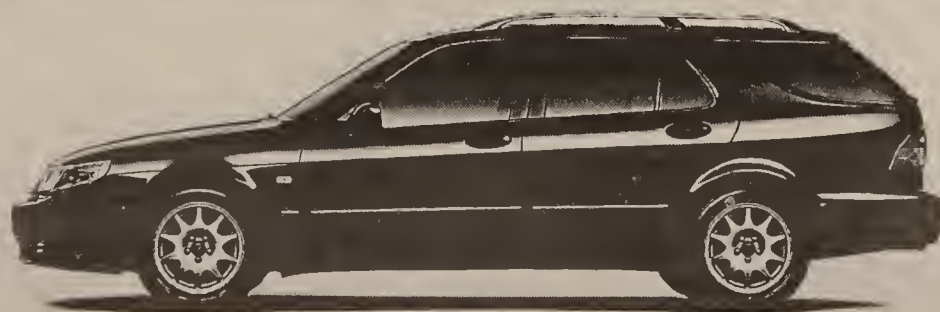
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BEST OF THE BAY

selection of European beauty products, as well as its own line of lotions, oils, and gels. Under One Roof (where all proceeds go to AIDS research) and PlaNetweavers Treasure Store offer more gift-oriented bath items. And if all of the specialty shops fail, there's always the tried-and-tested Body Shop. If you're unable to find that sought-after bath product at any of these stores, it may very well be time to, well, throw in the towel. *Skin Zone*, 575 Castro, S.F. (415) 626-4004; *Bare Necessities*, 421 Castro, S.F. (415) 626-5859; *Under One Roof*, 549 Castro, S.F. (415) 503-2300; *PlaNetweavers Treasure Store*, 518 Castro, S.F., (415) 575-0240; *Body Shop*, 506 Castro, S.F. (415) 431-8860.

Best Bookstore Featuring Gay and Lesbian Lit.

Stemming from that beautiful pre-Borders time when independent bookstores could have integrity without fear of bankruptcy, **A Different Light** has been around since 1979 and is still going strong. Serving the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community with a large selection of books, magazines, and erotica, A Different Light is full of items you can't get your hands on in other stores, and items you can't get your hands off once you're there. Literature events and author lectures are also frequently scheduled. 489 Castro, S.F. (415) 431-0891.

Best Place to Get Your Science Fiction and Fantasy Fix

Another Change of Hobbit bookstore caters to the needs of the alternate-universe-oriented consumer with scheduled book events and readings. One may stumble on any or all of the following: aliens, argonauts, and the bookstore cat, Shagrat, named after an Orc in *Lord of the Rings*. Mix with vertebrates of your own kind here and then go bury your nose in a book full of creatures who aren't ... or are they? 2020 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 848-0413.

Best Place to Rescue Cool Junk

Famous for its unceasing tsunami of assorted goods and materials such as violin cases, old candy machines, salvaged building supplies, records, books, furniture, and plumbing material, among other orphaned wares, **Urban Ore** is both an oddball junkyard and a spiritual homeland for those who have learned to circumnavigate its bulk. Hidden between the things you need and the stuff you want is a dedicated staff willing to help you load up the car. 1333 Sixth St., Berk. (510) 559-4454.

Best Place to Outfit Yourself in Some Cowboy Duds

Why rope cattle when you can just look like you do? Get some Western-style boots, spurs, chaps (be inven-

tive), bullwhips (be more inventive), moccasins, cowboy hats, belts, and a pair of butt-hugging wranglers, you're good to go. With a selection large enough to fulfill your cowboy needs (or fetish), **Golden Gate**

Western Wear should be your first and last stop before you drop the dot-com job and head for the open range. They even sell gun holsters. 2629 Taylor, S.F. (415) 441-1187; 12153 San Pablo, Richmond. (510) 232-3644.

Best Place to Get Panties Fit for the Queen Mother

Should you choose to splurge (and the Queen Mum doubtlessly refuses *Continued on page 58*

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BEST OF THE BAY THE NATION'S ORIGINAL



When the lights go down: Paulette Herring and owner Roland de la Rosa rejoice in front of Movie Image, the Best Video Store with a Well-Educated Proprietor.

Shopping

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to compromise when it comes to her "intimates") **Toujours** carries the lingerie brand Rigby and Peller, which holds the "Royal Warrant of Appointment as Corsetieres to H.M. Queen Elizabeth and the Queen Mother," among other designer undies that probably beat the heck out of what you are wearing now. Get your panties in a bunch with the best of them. 2484 Sacramento, S.F. (415) 346-3988.

Best Place to Take Out Your Aggression on Bugs and Small Animals

More like the attic of a 19th-century scientist than a store, **Paxton Gate** proudly pokes holes in the anthropoid kingdom, offering an impressive, albeit vaguely creepy, hoard of mounted insects. For sale alongside the crucified many is assorted taxidermy paraphernalia, victims to such taxidermy paraphernalia (a lovely stuffed rabbit, for example), exotic plants, and general niftiness. A good place to simultaneously find a present for someone you like and someone you hate. 824 Valencia, S.F. (415) 824-1872.

Best Video Store with a Well-Educated Proprietor

Not everyone can stomach a trip to Blockbuster, let alone being stuck with those paltry new releases, which is why video stores like **Movie Image** are born. Specializing in, but not limited to, American classics, international, cult, camp favorites, and other hard-to-find tapes, it offers even the biggest video snob will find a reason to eat popcorn in front of

the TV. Co-owner Roland DeLaRosa (his wife, Susan, is also co-owner) is a movie maven who can give you off-the-cuff reviews of practically any title in the store. It's obvious from the selection of films he's amassed in Movie Image that he has good taste. 2318 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 649-0296.

Best Shop for the Discerning Pet

Pet stores such as **Martin Dollard** cater to dogs who spend their days at home lounging in designer knit sweaters and sucking down gourmet dog treats, challenging the title "man's best friend" with the possibly more appropriate "man's best paycheck vacuum." In the right season, the doggy Halloween costumes here will be hard to resist. Be sure to examine the handmade, leather dog couch, lest you deprive your four-legged companion of such an obvious birthright. 3429 Sacramento, S.F. (415) 673-7708.

Best Place to Find a Cigar That's Just a Cigar

The tobacco shop known as **Sherlock's Haven** boasts a humidor with one of the best selections in San Francisco, offering around 200 different types of cigars for you to smoke, as opposed to use in your naughty Bill C. games (save that for the cigarillos). Owned by Marty Pulvers, Sherlock's Haven is famous for the collection of new and used briar pipes for sale. The selection is vast enough to have earned Pulvers quite a reputation among those in the know. Leave the store as a quasi-Sherlock with pipe in hand, and you might be able to justify saying "Elementary, my dear Watson, elementary" — if you can find someone to listen. 275 Battery, S.F. (415) 362-1405. ❖

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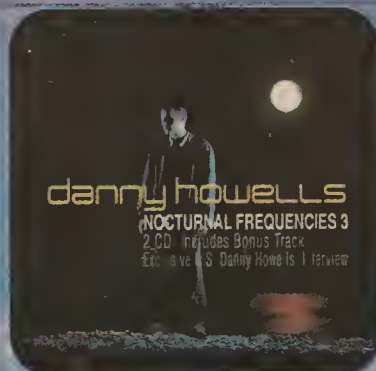
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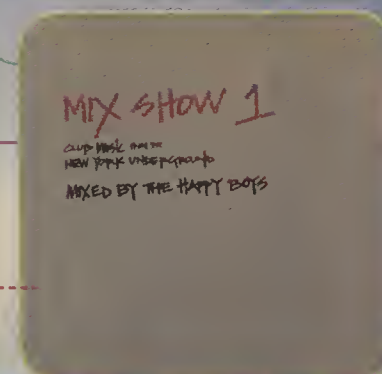
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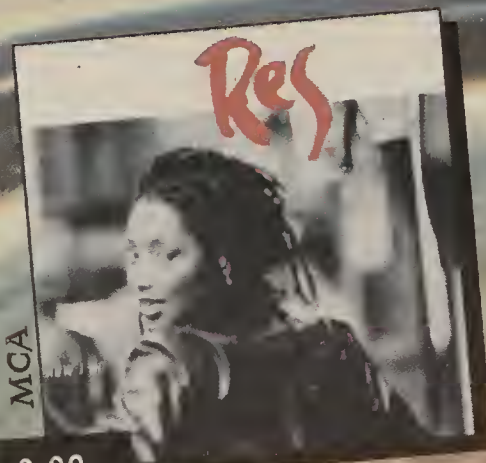
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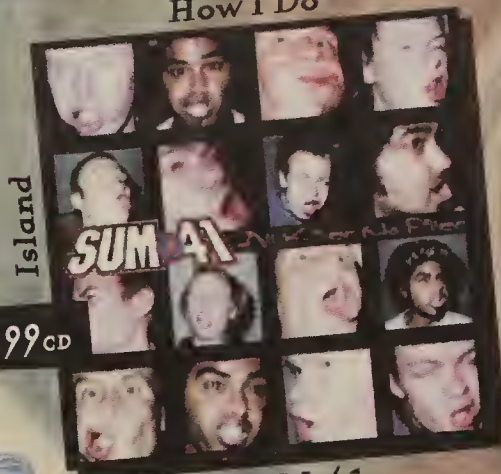
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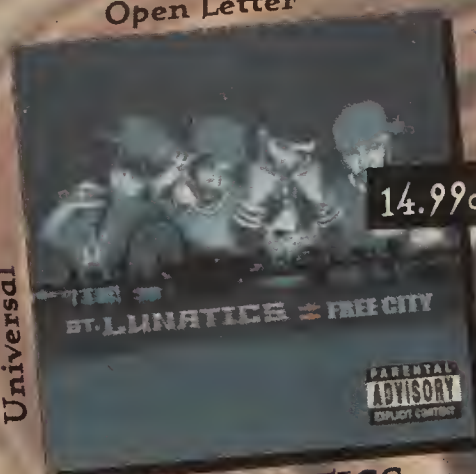
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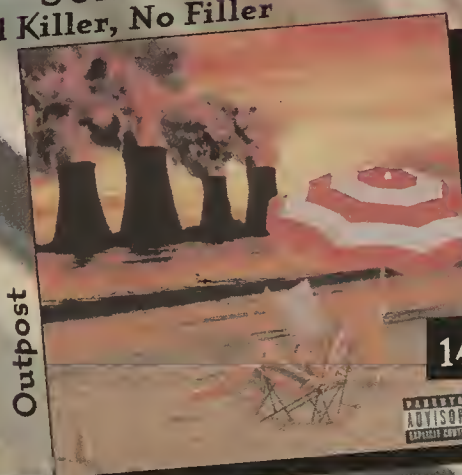
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DAVID PETERSON AND JOSE MINEROS

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GUARDIAN PHOTO BY SAUL BROMBERG AND SANDRA HOOVER PHOTOGRAPHY



LOCAL HERO

Sure, the San Francisco club scene is ultimately self-interested, a place to lose it all and forget about the wretched outside world. However, David Peterson and Jose Mineros, the promoters of Fag Fridays (www.fagfridays.com), the weekly house music event at the Endup, and Substance, a yearly benefit party at Space 550, have always given something back to the dance music and gay communities — and not just by providing exceptional DJs.

Over the past six years the two have donated more than \$75,000 to a variety of charities, including the AIDS Emergency Fund, LYRIC (a nonprofit for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth), Project Open Hand, the Brothers Network, Proyecto contra CIDA, S.F. AIDS Ride, the AIDS Walk, the San Francisco LGBT Pride Parade, Health Initiatives for Youth, and the San Francisco Late Night Coalition. They were the first

club promoters to donate a significant amount of money to SFLNC.

At the last Substance party the two lost money, but they'd promised to give every nonprofit involved in the show at least \$1,000, and they came through, no questions asked. It's this kind of generosity that makes Peterson and Mineros unusual in the club scene.

Peterson, who launched two influential house events, Rhythm and Product, in the early 1990s, got his start in San Francisco as a social worker. He did street-based outreach work with kids at 18th Street Services, a nonprofit that provides gay and bi men with alcohol and drug counseling. He began donating funds to nonprofits with money raised at Rhythm and Product, and when he and Mineros founded Fag Fridays, the consummate gay after-hours club, the donations became a more prominent part of the club night.

"Jose and I do well, and if you're doing well, there's always something for you to give," Peterson says. "If you have people walking through your door every week, give something back to them. If everyone did that, things would be a lot better."

Peterson and Mineros also regularly invite safe-sex and drug-information services to set up camp at the club — not in a pedantic, vibe-killing manner, but rather in a straight-up fashion. "We've had the U.S. Department of Health and the Stop AIDS Project in here because it's important for promoters to take a stand on social issues," Mineros says. "It's important to let people know about what's going on, to help them make better decisions. It's the responsibility of promoters to inform people that if they're gonna party, they should party safe. You can't help the solution by avoiding the issue." ❖

Seasons of comfort

By Paul Reidinger

In my family, food was serious business. My mother was a bit too old, a bit too far afield, a bit too married, and a bit too harried as the mother of small boys to be a hippie, but she had learned to cook at the side of her own mother, and she knew what was what. She made us eat whole-grain bread, for instance — over howls of protest and dismay — and every summer she was in touch with a rather severe woman we knew only as Mrs. Burnett, who grew vegetables, fruits, and berries in her small plot of garden down in the river valley — the oldest part of the Wisconsin river town, once a 19th-century Victorian logging village, where I grew up.

When Mrs. Burnett called, my mother jumped right behind the wheel of her bulbous green '55 Oldsmobile or whatever old car she happened to be driving at that moment, and with a small fistful of cash she would hurry off to snap up the precious produce. I remember tomatoes, and blueberries, and raspberries, and, toward the end of summer, corn; nothing dramatic or exotic, and of course we didn't even know the word "organic" then. But it was apparent even to us small boys that Mrs. Burnett's stuff was different from what came from the supermarket. The fruits and vegetables were plumper, richer in color, more fragrant. It was just plain better, as I'm sure my mother knew, even if we weren't yet quite old enough to make that kind of judgment.

You are less inclined to take the land's bounty for granted when the growing season is as seriously limited by climate as it is not only where I grew up but across much of this country. Not long ago I visited the farmers market in my hometown on a late-summer morning so cold, wet, and blustery that I was afraid it might snow. The market was set up in the vast parking lot of one of the town's vast new malls, just across the street from a vast supermarket, a temple of shrink-wrapping; the vendors were mainly Hmong, refugees from Indochina who began to come to Wisconsin in large numbers in the late 1970s, under the auspices of various Protestant ministries. Their offerings were modest — tomatoes, summer squash, some herbs, a few

inscrutable items that probably represented their effort to reproduce some version of their native foods in a drastically different, and less congenial, environment, one where a September frost warning is nothing out of the ordinary.

I was more than usually glad to come back here, where the white September air was warm and still and the markets were filling up with corn and peppers and the first of the autumn's apple crop. It occurred to me that I have been spoiled, that I take a great deal for granted. It is not difficult to get things to grow out here, and even in the dismal dead of our winter — the end of January, say — there are still freshly gathered delectables to be found at the farmers markets: Asian pears, persimmons, leeks, baby greens, with strawberries, asparagus, and artichokes not far off.

Sometimes, when I am standing there on a Saturday morning in a rainstorm (for which inclement weather I am grateful, since it drives away many of the Martha Stewart pretenders who've cluttered our streets and farmers markets in these boom years), I think about what the weather is like back east. Blizzards? Subzero cold? Whatever they are eating, it has been trucked in from far away, or retrieved from a pickling jar or cold storage in the cellar, and will require something in the way of artistry from the chef in order to reach the table in an attractive form.

We, on the other hand, if we are smart and respectful of the earth — as so many of us so clearly believe ourselves to be — don't need to do much with our harvest even in wintertime. A salad of greens, sliced apples or pears, goat cheese, and walnuts; a simple soup of apple and fennel; some cracked crab or pan-seared ahi: the chef's job in dealing with these kinds of raw ingredients is mostly to get out of the way.

That fact ought to make us humble. The real stars of our local culinary show are not the chefs, with all their human ingenuity, but the kindly weather and the rich land and sea. The forces of nature, alas, do not lend themselves to our celebrity-media culture, nor is human ego inclined to humility. For to be a chef in San

Francisco today is to aspire to a certain kind of public glory whose culmination is the naming of a restaurant after oneself. The worship of nature's plenty? Lip service is paid, of course, but really that's behavior for pagans and primitives.

The Western way, meanwhile, remains what it has been for centuries: the exercise of dominion over the earth, including prep station, stove, and table. The desire to have our way with raw material is a powerful and often overwhelming one. We "make" dinner; if we are chefs, we "create" dishes, as if we were gods. We assert ourselves over and through ingredients (not to mention underlings), hoping that through the alchemy of genius (*our* genius, of course), the whole will be greater than the sum of the modest parts.

This sort of egoism has been, to say the least, evident here in the past five or six years, as high-tech funny money washed through this town like a Mississippi flood and the nouveaux riches spent insanely on everything from huge houses to fancy Mercedeses to white-truffle flan with caviar, in restaurants that, like casinos, seemed to have been launched mainly to relieve the new swells of their excess cash. But now the tide has gone out, leaving behind an urban landscape changed yet still recognizable. The racing pulse of life here has slowed to something like an ordinary pace. For Rent signs are popping up like signs in a close political campaign. The fancy restaurants aren't *quite* as packed as they were with the arrogant, grasping rich. And many of the more modest places are still there, still mostly about seasonality.

Of course it is banal and a cliché to talk about seasonality around here. Everybody does it, even those who put fresh tomatoes on their menus in the middle of winter. But there is something to be said for it all the same — for submitting to the seasons and enjoying the foods they bring, each in its time. We are luckier than we know to live in a place in which even the most desolate season offers its measure of sustenance; we do not need to wrestle with and dominate the earth in order to survive and even thrive. Let that be a lesson, as my mother has always been fond of saying. ♦

FOOD AND DRINK

GUARDIAN PHOTOGRAPHS BY PAT MAZZERA



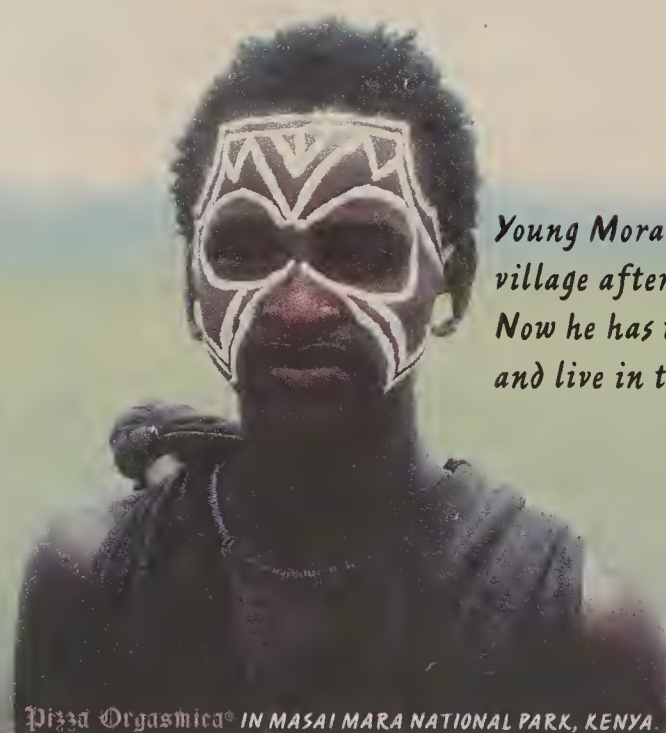
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Best Unbrazen Restaurant Signage

While in these competitive days we'd hardly be surprised to see restaurants hire hawkers to work the sidewalks, trying to corral customers the same way those North Beach girlie shows do, there are actually restaurants that don't do much by way of announcing themselves. If you hate neon and glitter and like the idea of discretion, check out **Brazen Head Restaurant**, a kind of faux English pub in Pacific Heights. The signage is really more — or less — than discreet, it's nonexistent: just a door with an address. Like a truly hip club. Nota bene: The food isn't pubby at all (no fish-and-chips) but conservative Californian. 3166 Buchanan, S.F. (415) 921-7600.

Best Wine Honeycomb

You'll think a colony of giant oenophile bees has taken over when you first step into **Bacar** and find yourself looking at a translucent glass wall divided into cells, each of which holds a bottle of wine. Relax! This isn't a sci-fi flick, and there are no such scary bees, just an excellent hodgepodge menu featuring dishes from all over the world — and, of course, wine, by the bottle, carafe, or glass. The quality is high, the prices surprisingly reasonable, and if all you really want is the wine, check out the loungey wine bar downstairs. 448 Brannan, S.F. (415) 904-4100.

Best Place to Get Cruised

We all want to be loved and desired, and a restaurant that cultivates those feelings in its patrons is bound to be appreciated — and full most of the time. Such is the case with **2223**, the Castro restaurant that in its frequent moments of high festivity can seem like a gay bar with tables and fabulously flirtatious waiters. The funny thing is that, contravening the old rule of thumb about awful food in gay restaurants, 2223 actually serves really good food. It's not overpriced, either. But who the hell cares what's going into your mouth when that cute waiter is breathing in your ear? 2223 Market, S.F. (415) 431-0692.

Best Late-Night Place to Chat Up Young Chefs

As a threshold matter, you have to ask yourself why you are chatting up young chefs in the first place, especially if you've read Anthony

Continued on page 67



Attack of the killer Chiantis: Buzz around Bacar's impressive wall of cells, the Best Wine Honeycomb.

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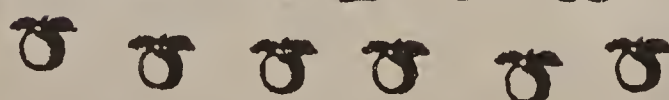
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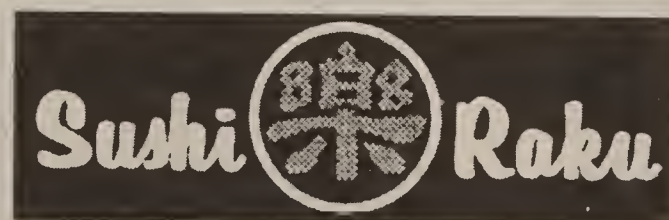
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Food and Drink

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Bourdain's Kitchen Confidential. People who work in kitchens are not necessarily everyone's cup of tea. But even the wildest chef types are likely to be mellowed out by **Emmy's Spaghetti Shack**, which is everything all those Pasta Pomodoros are trying to be, and then some. Good, inexpensive food, a moody ambience, young hip crowd, late hours. Let there be chat. 18 Virginia, S.F. (415) 206-2086.

Best Hor Mok Talay

There are lots of reasons to love little **Thai Time**. For one thing, it's so adorably tiny that if it got any smaller it would collapse into two dimensions. But the real reason is the food emerging from the closet-size kitchen, in particular the hor mok talay, a medley of seafood and coconut shavings in coconut-red curry sauce, served in a hollowed-out coconut. It's the very apotheosis of Thai cooking, and Thai Time's version is easily the best we've had around here. No one can eat just one. 315 Eighth Ave., S.F. (415) 831-3663.

Best Coffee

We could say "Best Non-Chain Coffee" if we believed that **Soma Caffe's Soma Blend** needed insulation from the competitive pressures of the big boys. But it doesn't. It is, simply, the best coffee we've ever had anywhere (France and Italy included). Whether you brew it in a French press or an electric espresso machine or (our favorite way) by pouring hot (but not boiling) water from a kettle through the grounds into a thermos, you'll end up with the richest, smoothest, most deeply flavorful cup of coffee you've ever drunk. And it isn't even expensive. 1601 Howard, S.F. (415) 861-5012.

Best Place for New-Economy-Yuppie-Watching

Despite the collapse of the Internet house of cards, there are still scads of yuppies in this town — rich, golden, Fitzgeraldian youths. They make quite a spectacle when they flock together to parade their feathers of entitlement, as they are wont to do. Lots of boasting about expensive cars, expensive condos, expensive wine, et cetera. As to the wine, it's no surprise that the yups would favor **Eos**, which does after all include a wine bar. But the fusion

Continued on page 68



Bewitching brew: Owner John Rocker tends to his cauldron of java at Soma Caffe, home of the Best Coffee.

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- Paul Reidinger,
Bay Guardian

BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Food and Drink

From page 67

food is pretty good too, if sometimes wild in its combinations, and prices and noise levels are high enough to gratify the most demanding new-economy, festive, exhibitionist punk. 901 Cole, S.F. (415) 566-3063.

Best Sushi in a Diner

Walk into **Restaurant YoYo**, at the corner of 16th Street and Valencia, and you're likely to feel a craving for milk shakes and sock hops. Yes, the aura is very 1950s, very *Happy Days*: the furnishing are all chrome and red leatherette. But the food is sushi, something you know never passed the Fonz's lips. Good sushi, too, and inexpensive, with attentive, swift service. No complaints, but of course no milkshakes, either. 3092 16th St., S.F. (415) 255-9181.

Best Staircase

You'll feel like Scarlett (or maybe Rhett) as you sweep down the voluptuously curvy stairs toward the host's podium at the sprawingly subterranean **Shanghai 1930**, there to eat fancy Chinese food. To mix our signals even further, let's note that, once you've reached the bottom of those lovely steps, the restaurant starts to look like a speakeasy: big, quiet dining rooms, moody, jazzy lighting, that sort of thing. They could be serving any kind of food down there. As it happens, the fancy Chinese food is pretty good, though hardly enough to weigh you down as you chug back up those stairs at the end of the evening. 133 Steuart, S.F. (415) 896-5600.

Best Tapas

Have we mentioned in the last five minutes that tapas are ultratrendy? Beyond ultratrendy? Now there are French ones and American ones. But for the real thing, the Spanish kind, the stuff you'd find in little cubbyhole restaurants in the evening in Madrid or Barcelona, you'll want to stop by **Ramblas**. It's a little spacious, a little MOMA for a true tapas bar, but the dishes — from crusty bread smeared with garlic and tomato to boquerones (white sardines) and manchego cheese with quince paste — are absolutely authentic. The wide selection of Belgian beers probably isn't, but those brews help wash things down all the same. 557 Valencia, S.F. (415) 565-0207.

Best Beef Dish

True, beef generally doesn't need much dressing up. A steak, lightly seasoned with salt and pepper and grilled three or four minutes per side over a charcoal fire, is as good as it gets. Unless we're talking about strips of beef sautéed in clarified butter. That would be **Sawa Restaurant's version of kilwa** — possibly the best beef preparation ever devised. Oh, there's berbere in there somewhere, and tomatoes, onions, and peppers pop up too, but it's the butter and beef that makes the magic, as the Homer Simpsonists among us know all too well. 559 Divisadero, S.F. (415) 614-0580.

Best High-End Mom-Style Cooking

Comfort food never goes out of style, because, whether it's meat loaf or pot roast or ham-and-cheese sandwiches or s'mores, it's the food we grew up with. The canny people at **Luna Park Kitchen and Cocktails** understand this, and while their Mission restaurant is tricked out in conventional dot-com style (dark, glossy, noisy), the food is hearty, simple, and savory — a little taste of home that's probably especially welcome these days to all of our newly down-and-out up-and-comers, who are working up some big appetites loading their stuff into U-Hauls for the big move to the next nirvana. 694 Valencia, S.F. (415) 553-8584.

Best Place to Eavesdrop on Yuppie Angst

And for those Internauts who can't get in to Luna Park or who haven't yet been able to snag a U-Haul or whose dot-com hasn't (yet) departed to that great server farm in the sky, there's **Buzz 9 Cafe**, an unusually attractive little bistro in a part of SoMa that's still fairly gritty. Clearly the forecast was for dot-com riches to engulf even the iffiest areas of the city. But these days the buzz at Buzz 9 is about extinction and exodus, which makes it the ideal lunch spot for the *schadenfreude*-inclined eavesdropper. For the simply hungry, it's even better: fine California cooking served in an atmosphere of understated style. 139 Eighth St., S.F. (415) 255-8783.

Best Big Island Plate-Lunch Aura

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Continued on page 71

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BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Food and Drink

From page 68

In that spirit, there's **Punahale Island Grill**, which serves up that plate-lunch food you liked so much the last time you were on the Kona coast. And it does so in a setting that will make you forget the foggy here and now. Nota bene: Servings are huge, particularly with respect to the various starches. So unless you're coming off of a starvation diet, proceed with caution through the appetizers, lest you be overwhelmed when the main dishes start arriving. 2650 Judah, S.E. (415) 759-8276.

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Continued on page 74



Movin' on up: Tlaloc's multiple mezzanines make it the Best High-Rise Taquería.

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TASTING



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Days of beer and salsa

Our tasting panel makes the world safe for two summertime favorites. *By Paul Reidinger*

Beer. The very word flows soothingly through the ears, like a familiar melody, at least for those of us who grew up in beer culture — that is to say, among people (generally men) who drank it *hors d'oeuvre* straight from a succession of bottles until they grew hazy. For there is, no question, a melancholy side to beer; it retains a working-class — or no-class — aura. Homer Simpson is a Duff man, after all. Beer has long been the stuff teenagers get blasted on; it's the stuff of college keggers. It's cheap and easy, an effective way to get drunk, whether for the exuberant, careless

young or those farther down life's road who find themselves encumbered by a world of cares. Of all alcoholic beverages, beer has probably suffered the most from the American practice of sundering drink from the stabilizing presence of food, and using the former just to get plastered.

But the truth is that beer has an ancient pedigree, comparable to wine's. The two have long been competitors. In pre-Christian Europe the "wine line" marked the edge of Roman rule, beyond which, in the wild forests of Germania, lurked the red-bearded bar-

barians, brewers of a libation the Roman historian Tacitus (one of the first wine snobs on record) described as "resembl[ing] an inferior quality of wine." And in later centuries, even to Napoleonic times, the division assumed a Catholic-Protestant cast.

"It was wine and beer that clashed at Waterloo," J.-F. Gautier writes in *Histoire du vin*. "The red fury of wine repeatedly washed in vain against the immovable wall of the sons of beer."

Of course, there are those of us who like both — who would have been in an agony of doubt and

THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

divided loyalties at Waterloo, apparently. I suppose our true fate is sake, which incorporates elements of wine and beer and goes well with sushi, the perfect food. But then, *beer* goes awfully well with sushi, as it does with Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, Indian, and Mexican, among other cuisines. Even Italian. Earlier this spring I was in Rome for a time and spent many a lovely evening at sidewalk pizzerias and trattorias, drinking the Roman beer, Nastro Azzurro ("media alla spina," or, big mug of draft), with plenty of pizza and pasta. (One night, in a slightly ritzy restaurant, I did break down and order a bottle of Frascati, the signature white wine of the vineyards around Rome.)

So there's no question that beer's a player in the wide world of food. A perfunctory tour of San Francisco restaurants would tell you as much; not only are boutique beers on offer in many of them as a matter of course, but also the restaurant landscape is dotted with microbreweries that turn out small batches of distinctive beers whose freshness and marks of old-world craft are far removed from the stuff that you buy at the corner bodega in bottles and cans.

Since it's summer, we found ourselves thinking about wheat beer, in which wheat, substituted for the conventional barley, produces a faintly sweet, smooth brew with an unmistakably tropical bouquet. Although in Germany wheat beer (or Weissbier, Weizenbier, hefeweizen) is the drink of Munich's Oktoberfest, around here it's more likely to be quaffed on the Fourth of July.

Since we'd assigned ourselves the more sober role of tasters, rather than quaffers, we spent a pleasant half-day popping into several of the city's best-known brew pubs — Beach Chalet Brewery and Restaurant, Magnolia Pub and Brewery, Potrero Brewing Co., and ThirstyBear Brewing Co. — and coming away each time with a growler of the house wheat beer. (A growler is the smallest to-go increment in which to buy brew-pub beer; it's a half-gallon jug that looks like it ought to be full of moonshine. Which, in a way, it is.) For contrapuntal effect, we also added to the mix a bottled German wheat beer, Paulaner, and a widely available American commercial brew from Henry Weinhard.

After much sniffing and sipping and eyeballing, the group narrowly anointed as its top choice the wheat beer from **Potrero Brewing Co.** The panel liked its comparatively rich color — deeper and redder than those of the other beers ("smoky," in the words of one), with the cloudiness characteristic of unfiltered, microbrewed beer — as well as its "comforting," "slightly sweet," "yeasty" aroma. The head of foam wasn't much to write home about; the nicest thing anyone had to say about it was that it was "short-lasting"; others called it "lame," "weak," and "sad." But the beer's taste was "crisp and clear" and "very home-brew type."

"The best of the group," one panelist said in summary.

But not far behind, and in a tie, were wheat beers from the **Beach Chalet** and **ThirstyBear**. The Beach Chalet beer was notable for its distinctive aroma of bananas ("very fruity," one impressed panelist said) and for its formidable head of foam, which struck one observer as a "very robust" exhibition that "lasts a long time." Given the strong aroma, it's not surprising that the beer, once in the mouth, underperformed slightly — "flavor not as strong as aroma" — though the panel almost to a person noted sweetness and smoothness on the palate. One sweet tooth liked this "tropical" effect, but several other panelists complained that the beer was "too sweet" and "really doesn't taste like beer."

An aroma of bananas also hovered over the ThirstyBear brew, at least in

("light" and "fruity" seemed to cover it), and its head of foam, though "strong" at first, "faded" quickly. But the panel liked its "clean," "smooth" presence on the palate, with a "slight bite" at the beginning. Still, the consensus view was that the Weinhard's was "better looking than tasting" and "did not meet expectations."

That was certainly true of the lagers, one of which, **Paulaner**, opened with a tremendous head of foam. "Spectacular" and "enduring," one panelist said, while another described the foam as "massive," and a third said simply, "major head." The Paulaner's scent also met with general approval, one panelist finding it to be "friendly," while another detected, yet again, bananas. A third noted — ominously? — that it smelled like "commercial American beer." But the Paulaner's flavor — "nippier," "heavier," "yeastier"

group. The beer had an "odd taste," wrote one panelist. "Reminds me of nonalcoholic 'near beer' available in Midwest when I was young." Another dismissed it as "basically uninteresting," while yet another found its flavor to be "not much of anything."

• • •

Well, maybe there's a context issue here. For while beer can be drunk on its own (a nice example in literature is W. Somerset Maugham's *Razor's Edge*, whose characters are forever drinking tall glasses of beer — slowly, one at a time — at outdoor cafés), it really makes the most sense only when consumed with food. With salsa, say. Is salsa a food? Perhaps the W. administration will anoint it a vegetable for the purposes of school-lunch programs, much as Ron's administration so infamously did with ketchup. We all know from *Seinfeld* that sometime in the early 1990s, salsa passed ketchup as America's favorite condiment. But ... there's the contextual rub again. If beer needs salsa, or something, then salsa needs chips. Beer, salsa, chips: a holy trinity for our times.

Since our subject was salsa, not chips, I will note in passing that the chips we used for tasting our salsas

Despite some wateriness (much of which appears to be added during processing), the salsa packed a considerable punch of heat. "Quite hot," one panelist said, adding, "Surprising." Another found it to be "pretty spicy," while a third noted that it "opens my nasal passages."

Other than the wateriness, the panel was impressed overall. One taster praised the salsa's "homemade appearance" and "style"; another commented simply that it had "no flaws."

As to the **real homemade salsa**: it finished a respectable but distant second, earning an overall assessment on the low end of "good." The "very strong" presence of garlic was widely noted, as was a brisk saltiness that bothered some tasters and met with the liking of others. The salsa's "consistent" puree texture also set it apart from the rest of the field. It was "as if it has gone through a food processor," one panelist noted, as indeed it had.

Perhaps the most interesting entrant, **Sonoma Salsa Chipotle Medium**, with corn and black beans, placed third. Like cilantro, chipotle peppers (smoked jalapeños) are not to everyone's taste, but those who like them tend to love them. Hence the range of individual evaluations, from "excellent" to "poor." One disgruntled taster complained repeatedly about a "fermented" quality to the salsa, while conceding that it "looks good with [the] black beans and corn." Another said that the salsa "smells like B.O." but liked its "good, tangy taste." A third liked its "smoky" quality.

Perhaps the most surprising result among the salsas was the comparative approval given to the **Pace Picante Sauce Medium**, which finished close behind the Sonoma Chipotle. Although several panelists noted disapprovingly that the salsa looked "cooked" and "processed," with an "unnatural velvety sheen," the group liked the bold scent of garlic and peppers and found the flavor "surprisingly spicy" and "smooth," if "a bit sweet."

Lurking near the bottom of the barrel was a fresh salsa from **La Tortilla Factory**. The panel found that product to be, despite a "coarse, pico de gallo-like texture," "runny" and "mushy," with a flavor that was both "flat and old" and "fishy" — perhaps the result of too much salt. Several panelists noted a "lack of freshness." "It has been sitting *too* long," one said.

Finishing dead last was **La Victoria Salsa Suprema Medium**. The commentary here was universally unfavorable, from the salsa's appearance ("like an Italian ragout") to its fragrance ("vinegary"; "smells like tomatoes from a can") to its flavor ("awful"). "I can't believe it's a salsa!" one taster wrote in horrified wonder. Perhaps some marketing wizard can make some lemonade from that witty lemon — after warming up the old brain cells with, say, a nice tall pilsner glass of wheat beer from the Potrero Brewing Co. ♦

The beers, ranked

1. **Potrero Brewing Co. hefeweizen**, \$15 a half-gallon growler
2. **The Beach Chalet Brewery and Restaurant hefeweizen**, \$10 a growler; **ThirstyBear Brewing Co. hefeweizen**, \$11.94 a growler
3. **Henry Weinhard's hefeweizen**, \$4.99 a six-pack
4. **Magnolia Pub and Brewery hefeweizen**, \$12 a growler; **Paulaner Hefeweizen**, \$1.59 a 16-ounce bottle

The salsas, ranked

1. **Casa Sanchez Mild Salsa Roja**, \$3.59 a 16-ounce tub
2. **The author's own**
3. **Sonoma Salsa Chipotle Medium**, \$4.29 a 16-ounce tub
4. **Pace Picante Sauce Medium**, \$1.59 a 8-ounce jar
5. **La Tortilla Factory Medium Salsa**, \$2.79 a 16-ounce tub
6. **La Victoria Salsa Suprema Medium**, \$2.99 a 16-ounce jar

Paul's Own Salsa

My recipe is simple, crude, and effective: into the food processor go a couple of cleaned scallions, a small fistful of cilantro, a clove of peeled garlic, a dash of chili flakes, and the juice of half a lemon or lime. That gets chopped up, then in goes a 14-ounce can of plum tomatoes with juice and a good pinch of salt. Whirl again, gently — with luck to preserve some big chunks of tomato.

the nose of one panelist, but another found the beer redolent of "baked beans," while a third detected a "woody" note. Several tasters found that note to be more pronounced in the flavor, describing it as "oaky" and "smoky," with some "nuttininess," though also leaving what one called "a green and bitter aftertaste on the back of one's throat." Despite some mixed comments (many of them pertaining to the beer's "modest" and "marginal" head of foam, which "disappears much too fast"), the beer's "strong," "pronounced" flavor earned the group's cautious approval.

The biggest surprise was the respectable showing of the American commercial beer, **Henry Weinhard's hefeweizen**, whose color — "rich," "coppery," like "golden maple" or "dark honey" — impressed the panel straight off. The beer didn't have much odor

than the others — was too strong to be neutral about. One said it was "not good." "Couldn't have this," said another, while a third, complaining that "the taste spoils everything good about [the] appearance and aroma," summed it up with "ooh, yuch!"

Tied for last was a wheat beer from **Magnolia Pub and Brewery**. Like all of the other beers, it was essentially a honey-amber color, and like the other (unfiltered) microbrews it was slightly hazy, resembling "cloudy sherry," in the eyes of one panelist, or possibly "mustard," in the eyes of another. The beer, despite a lively head of foam ("light" and "fluffy" but "disappearing much too fast") didn't have much of an aroma; only one panelist detected even a faint whiff of yeast. So the beer's "deep," "nutty" flavor came as something of a surprise, though not an especially pleasant one for most of the

were Native's fresh-cut white-corn tortilla chips — bought straight off the rack at Tower Market. They were thick and lightly salted. Everyone liked them, even without salsa.

I will also note that of the six salsas we tasted, one was a ringer of sorts. It was my own, made two days before the tasting. The others included three of those fresh varieties you find in the cooler in the produce or deli section of the market. The final two came in jars from somewhere on the regular grocery shelves. All the salsas (except one) purported to be of "medium" heat, although, as we discovered, this was a designation about as useful as "organic" used to be — which is to say, not too useful.

The top salsa, by a comfortable margin (with a cumulative evaluation falling about midway between "excellent" and "good") was **Casa Sanchez Mild Salsa Roja**. Although its constituent tomatoes, onions, peppers, and cilantro were quite finely diced — considerably more so than even in the jarred salsas — the panel found that the Casa Sanchez salsa "looks very real, like something homemade." It also had a distinct bouquet of cilantro — "wonderful," said a panelist who plainly liked cilantro, an herb on which there seems to be no middle position.

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Food and Drink

From page 71

plunge those chips into. 525
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Best Dining Room with a View of Polk Street Hustlers

Amid all the dot-com hue and cry of the last three or four years, the boys and their johns have quietly kept about their business on Polkstrasse. Some human yearnings never change — thank goodness. While the boys and the gentlemen in their cars go about satisfying one hunger, you can satisfy your own — while keeping an eye on them — at **Le Jardin**, a sprawling second-floor Vietnamese restaurant whose chef has a Slanted Door pedigree. There's nothing especially fancy on the menu, but the food is plentiful, well-prepared, and not too expensive. You'll make out fine — at least as well as those dudes down below. 1160 Polk, S.F. (415) 885-1378.

Best California-Cuisine Restaurant on a Cable-Car Line

Little cable cars might climb halfway to the stars, but, laden as they tend to be with tourists, they rarely pass near restaurants the locals have any interest in. A conspicuous exception is **Zax**, in the northern fringes of North Beach. The space is just an ordinary storefront directly in front of which the cable cars trundle, and the decor is muted, but the food is an ongoing exercise in the pleasures

of freshness and simplicity. If you've forgotten what it's all about, a meal at Zax will refresh your memory. 2330 Taylor, S.F. (415) 563-6266.

Best French Tapas

The French may be many things (many of them puzzling to Americans), but blind practitioners of custom they are not. They know from curry, couscous, and ginger, among other exotica, so the idea of a French-influenced, pan-Mediterranean tapas restaurant like **Chez Nous** isn't as radical as it might seem. It is fabulous, though, from the Spanish tortilla to the lamb scented with lavender salt and lots in between. With every small plate, the prosaic pleasures of traditional tapas are raised to a higher plane: that of a tasting menu. 1911 Fillmore, S.F. (415) 441-8044.

Best Reason to Try to Park on Potrero Hill

We will stipulate right off that parking anywhere in this town is a headache-giving experience. And though Potrero Hill probably isn't the most congested neighborhood, things can still get pretty sticky in the vicinity of 18th and Connecticut Streets, where all of those restaurants cluster. But it's worth it (look uphill a block or two) if you happen to be on your way to **Just for You**, quite possibly the world's ultimate hole-in-the-wall diner. With a Cajun-creole-tinged breakfast-and-lunch menu, and Mexican stuff for dinner, they've got you covered. 1453 18th St., S.F. (415) 647-3033.

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Best Fries in a Paper Cone

French fries are always welcome, but when they come served in a cone made of butcher's paper, as they do at **Black Cat**, you can be sure you're getting your just due of grease. And, as it happens, the fries live up to the cone's romantic promise; they are the perfect way of announcing the restaurant's latest transformation from hodgepodge to French bistro. Black Cat's walls are hung with framed poetry by the Beats, so you can brush up on the local cultural past while noshing. 501 Broadway, S.F. (415) 981-2233.

Best Restaurant to Close that Shouldn't Have

Alas, there's at least one every year: a restaurant that should have made it but didn't. Proof again of the old saw that it's not enough to be good. **Cafe J** was better than good; it was terrific — a modest but comfortable place in outer Noe Valley, with a fabulous Basque, seafood-rich menu, including an unforgettable pariatto. That would be a medley of fish and seafood in a ginger-cilantro sauce, within a berm of risotto. That dish alone would have been the pride of many a fancier restaurant, but it wasn't enough to save Cafe J, which closed its doors early in May. 1708 Church, S.F.

Best Performance by an Owner-Chef

When you hear some restaurant person described as "owner-chef," the emphasis generally seems to be on

the first word of the hybrid title. Big-cheese chefs are no longer to be found behind the stoves in the kitchen; they're planning menus and schmoozing the money people or the media. So when you find an owner-chef who's actually cooking, who actually thrives on the work and does it brilliantly — such as **Charles Solomon**, of Chaz — you take notice. Chaz is a bit plain inside, but the French-California food is as good as it gets, and Solomon even serves (with evident passion) as his own pastry chef. 3347 Fillmore, S.F. (415) 928-1211.

Best Little Grocery Store That Could

Sick of Safeway? Well, take a number. Better yet, get yourself to **Yum**, the gorgeous little grocery store beneath the neon green sign on Market near Gough (right next to Carta). Owner Paul Frohlich is a trained chef and a serious food person, and he's got the right stuff on his shelves. He's hoping you'll think so, too, since the point of Yum is not to be some kind of display case of fancy foods but a working market on the model of Dean and DeLuca in Manhattan. Added bonus: Yum's (reasonable) prices do not include a markup for overpaying Barry Bonds and his teammates. 1750 Market, S.F. (415) 626-9866.

Best New Restaurant

One of the more attractive trends in local restaurant culture is what

Continued on page 76

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BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Food and Drink

From page 75

might be called "new ethnic": the dressing up of simple, modest dishes — staples of the countryside cooking of Brazil, Mexico, Peru, or elsewhere — with urban style. We particularly like **Destino**, which gives the foods of Peru a golden spin that matches up nicely with the golden glow of the interior. Any of the old conquistadores would be happy eating here; you will be too. 1815 Market, S.F. (415) 552-4451.

Best Gypsy-Cuisine Restaurant

We could probably get away with saying the "only" gypsy-cuisine restaurant, since if there's another such establishment in the Bay Area, we haven't heard about it. But we don't need to: **Bistro E Europe** is excellent by any standard. The food has strong Hungarian roots; there's a lot of paprika, and the fried bread (like a giant pizza crust with overtones of pastry) is extraordinary. The space has an authentic Budapest feel; if you squint a bit you can almost make out a dissident poet or two from the old days perched moodily at a window seat. 4901 Mission, S.F. (415) 469-5637.

Best Place to Drink Georgian Wine

Georgian wine? No, not that Georgia, home of a certain former-peanut farmer chief executive. We mean the Georgia in central Asia, wherein Eduard Shevardnadze, Gorby's onetime foreign minister, serves as prez. It's a more civilized place than our version, not least because it's been an active viticultural area for five millennia. You know Alexander the Great had to have stopped there for some refreshment as he went about the business of conquering the known world. And if you stop in at **Traktir**, a Russian restaurant in deepest Richmond, you can treat yourself to a bottle of Old Tbilisi for about \$8 and not only taste a bit of what Alexander might have tasted but be pleasantly surprised that such good wine can be had in a San Francisco restaurant in 2001 for so little money. It's called ... value! 403 Balboa, S.F. (415) 386-9800.

Best Sloughing Off of an Earlier Incarnation

The old Paragon, over in the Marina, was the yuppie meat market of all time, filled with the beautiful young, lounging as if waiting for a casting call for *Friends*. The new **Paragon** is, well, more grown-up.

The space is attractively vertical, almost formal: like a 26-year-old decked out in his first tux. Perhaps because he's won his first Cy Young Award? The restaurant's new location, near Pac Bell Park, connotes a certain sort of respectability, but we can't say we don't miss those old meat-market days. 701 Second St., S.F. (415) 537-9020.

Best Pan-Asian Menu

We like our pan-Asian food. For one thing, the little-of-this-little-of-that sort of menu — Vietnamese spring rolls, Thai prawn curry, kung pao chicken — makes it easier to go out to dinner when one of you wants a little of this and the other (or others) want a little of that. And there's no pan-Asian restaurant we like better than little **OneAsia**. If it doesn't quite live up to its ambitious name (and how could it?), it does provide a wealth of tasty dishes from all over east Asia, at reasonable prices, in a snug, gracious setting that beckons like an oasis in a part of the Tenderloin that's still a bit down-and-out. 637 Larkin, S.F. (415) 775-1318.

Best Movie Soundstage Effect

Step into **Ana Mandara**, over in (yes!) Ghirardelli Square, and you can be forgiven for thinking that you've wandered onto the set of a movie — perhaps a made-for-TV *Nash Bridges* job in which hero Don Johnson (who's one of the owners) must kite off to Vietnam. For the mood under the klieg light—studded ceiling is very colonial Saigon: elegant linens, potted palms, an air of slow tropical opulence, and, not least, terrific food. Probably the best Vietnamese food you'll find in this town. Certainly the best illusory experience. 891 Beach, S.F. (415) 771-6800.

Best Place to Get High with Friends

Forget the downtown hotels. The best "high tea" for our money is at **Lovejoy's Tea Room** on Church. They throw in the multitiered assortment of cakes and the fancy bone china (some of which is for sale, since Lovejoy's is also an antique store). They provide the frilly, flowery ambience — dimpled linen tablecloths and all — that's the true point of high tea. They cut the crusts off of their little triangular sandwiches, which can include such unlikely fillings as oak-smoked haddock or chutney and cheese. And most important, the friendly staff makes you feel at home, not as if you need

Continued on page 78

Best City Attorney Candidate "NEIL EISENBERG"

...Bay Guardian, 6/27/01

"The strongest city attorney candidate on public power is Neil Eisenberg, who drafted the MUD petition and led the successful legal fight to get the measure on the ballot despite a pro-PG&E city attorney, a pro-PG&E mayor and a then-pro-PG&E Board of Supervisors."

...Bay Guardian, 6/27/01

"Eisenberg is brilliant and compassionate. He is uniquely qualified to be our City Attorney."

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"Eisenberg's early leadership on public power earned my respect.

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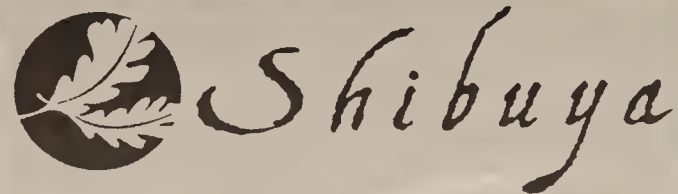
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THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY

Food and Drink

From page 76

to be on your best behavior. 1351 Church, S.F. (415) 648-5895.

Best Healthy Cure for a Hangover

Did you know that Jamba Juice is the Starbucks of the wheat-grass world? A true wheat-grass enthusiast cringes at even the thought of the precious juice diluted with any foreign substance. **Wheatgrass Growers Farm and Depot** is the real deal for the dyed-in-the-wool juicer. The happy hour is tops, but when we roll in on a Sunday morning for our kinda hair of the dog, the volunteer staff is in an entirely better mood. And when we take a whole flat of grass home, the cat's attitude improves too. *Friday happy hour, 4-6: shots and a chaser are half off. 1785 15th St., S.F. (415) 864-3001.*

Best Place to Go for Lunch and Stay for Dinner

We've been guarding this secret for years, and now we come clean about the best restaurant meal in San

Francisco. **Burma Super Star** could be called a dive, with its tacky paneling and artificial flora, and yet everyone we know has a religious devotion to the place. Actually, our crowd isn't exactly from the right side of the tracks, and we dig the trailer park decor. Beyond appearances though, it all comes down to this: the salt-and-pepper chicken is wonderful. We love to show up around 1 p.m., have the chicken as a lunch special, and get caught up in some fabulous conversation until about 4:30 — when we order the divine dish again as a dinner entrée. Someone we know dips her chicken in vinegar; others smother it in the mint sauce that comes with samosas. We're purists. We save the steamed rice for the dry-fried string beans and eat the s-and-p chicken with our fingers. 309 Clement, S.F. (415) 387-2147.

Best Place to Eat a Veggie Burger Standing Up

Don't dismiss the colorful corner location where **Whizburger** resides: it provides a great view of the hubcap store across the street. Whizburger is known for its corn

dogs and funky '50s-style design. What we cherish, though, are the veggie burgers and chocolate malteds — well worth the risk. The red vinyl stools are inviting, but let us suggest you eat your churro on the run. Who knows, maybe if you're lucky and feeling a bit plucky, one of the passersby will join you for a burger and share some tales of back in the day, when the Mission was all about the locals. 700 South Van Ness, S.F. (415) 824-5888.

Best-Looking Wait Staff

It's not just that the staff at **Ti Couz** beautify the room, they seem to have been trained in the fine art of ego massage. When we look into our server's baby blues, we can't help it, we can't remember what we wanted to order. We cough and we stutter our way through our savory crepe and organic greens order every time. Once we even mispronounced Nutella. The servers must be used to the confusion they inspire; it matters not at whom we gawk, s/he never misses a beat. The crepes are delicious, but we're telling you, it's the help that really brighten our day. 3108 16th St., S.F. (415) 252-7373.

Best (and Free-est) Song-and-Dance Routine

If charismatic old-timer **Jackie Jones** and her dancing mechanical cat don't put a smile on your face and a tap in your foot, then you must be between the ages of 7 and 70. And unamusable. Saturday mornings at the Alemany farmers market, Jackie holds court on a homemade washboard electric guitar and two octaves of musical saws (which she'll stop playing when an airplane passes overhead, so as not to mess with the pilot). Her pedal-and-pulley-operated dancing wooden cat, which she controls with amazing finesse, will be your kid's best friend while you look around for beets. And if you happen to be old enough or cool enough to appreciate tunes like "The Wabash Blues," "Red River Valley," and "Bye Bye Blues," you may not get much shopping done either. 100 Alemany Blvd., S.F. (415) 647-9423

Best Spicy Sunday Brunch

Sunday brunch, in its traditional eggs 'n' pancakes incarnation, is fill-

ing and comforting but can get a bit boring. If your taste for culinary adventure needs a morning wake-up call, head to Berkeley's **Café de la Paz**. Its spicy, scrumptious delights will put a bump in your brunch — and maybe some hair on your chest. Pulling recipes from all over South and Central America, re-creating them with top-notch California ingredients and a touch of Gourmet Ghetto panache, the restaurant hits all of the right notes. Enjoy the sunny views of the Berkeley hills while you savor the fried plantains with red chili crema, the Venezuelan corn pancakes, or the cinnamon French toast in coconut-almond-raisin sauce. The food is so good, you may just want to keep pouring the sangria and stay for another meal. 1600 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 843-0662.

Best Way to Discover What It's Like to Be Regular

Saying a food is "full of fiber" may conjure up images of cardboard-style crackers or tasteless rice cakes. But it doesn't have to be that way. **Great Harvest** bakery makes a full line of fiberific breads that put the

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emphasis on flavor. The store, famous for its generous free samples, features a rotating menu of fresh-baked loaves. All of its breads are good, but if you've ever considered tackling *Ulysses* or *War and Peace* while in the bathroom, you should head directly to the heavily seeded Dakota bread and the Rockridge Crunch, both of which are so full of roughage that you'll never be tempted to reach for a gritty glass of Metamucil again. 5800 College, Oakl. (510) 655-4442.

Best East Bay Speakeasy

It's dark, it's dingy, the service is slow, and the drinks are foofy, and that's the way we like it. **Spats Restaurant and Saloon** has by far the best creepy-cool speakeasy atmosphere of any bar in the East Bay. Settle back in an enormous, well-worn easy chair and enjoy one of the unique, tropically inclined concoctions, whether it's a Zombie, a Zonker, or a Spider, and you will be transported to another time. Not a time that ever was, but something that's as mixed-up as one of its cocktails. The nearest temporal experience would be the representation of the Moulin Rouge nightclub from the recent film of the same name. Except Spats isn't a mix of a French red-light district at the turn of the century and modern times, but a place where the Roaring '20s meets the '60s with a kitschy explosion. Decorations include mannequins, giant, antique stained-glass drugstore signs ("DRUGS"), neon beer advertisements, Disney posters, and masks. All of which is set to retro, alternative music from the '80s. When you get hungry, Spats also features steak dinners. 1974 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 841-7225.

Best Cheese Cart in the City

Before you hear it or see it coming, you can smell the cheese cart at **Gary Danko**. Its ripe odors greet you like ambassadors from cheesy nation-states. The collection of artisanal cheeses is so enticing that even after a five-course meal, the cart looks appealing. If you're not a high-end cheese connoisseur, the waiter's rapid-fire descriptions of the cart's contents may leave you feeling slightly bewildered. But it doesn't really matter, because the goods are staring you in the face. There is something overwhelming about a finely lacquered cart designed to ferry cheese around a small room. This is as close to cheese heaven as you can get without going to France. 800 North Point, S.F. (415) 749-2060.

Best Moussaka

There's no way the Greek gods could eat the airy and decadent moussaka from **Kokkari** and keep their svelte lilt, but that doesn't mean it's not good enough to serve on Mount Olympus. Even the mightiest of supernaturals would quiver at this sublime casserole of succulent and savory top-grade lamb ragout layered beneath giant wedges of deeply flavorful eggplant and perfect potatoes. Don't let the tiny size of the ramekins in which it's served fool you; the richness and density of this elegant homespun favorite is enough to make even Zeus beg for mercy. Truly a food of the gods. 200 Jackson, S.F. (415) 981-0983.

Best Place to Buy a Cock Cake

Sometimes you just need a cake in the shape of a giant cock, ya know? Thank god the **Cake Gallery**, located in our city's sultry leather district, has an ample supply of sexually explicit cakes, chocolates, and cupcakes to suit the needs of any dessert-loving pervert. Vulvas, breasts, asses, et cetera, in some dessert form, are always a hit at the office party or bar mitzvah, and the Cake Gallery will even deliver it for free in the city. While the novelty of adult food is often completely reliant on appearances, this bakery also produces delicious cakes. Though some may disagree, we think cock never tasted quite so good. 290 Ninth St., S.F. (415) 861-2253.

Best King — Noodles, not Burger

All hail the real lord of fast, cheap eats in San Francisco, the **King of Thai Noodles** and its court of affiliates. There is just no place else to go for classics like duck- or beef-noodle soup, pad thai and other stir-fried noodle dishes, green papaya salad, and ground chicken with rice powder, onion, basil, chile, and lime. While the most recent satellite shop on Haight mysteriously changed its name to Best of Thai Noodles a month after opening, six other shops around the City still bear the King's name — and portrait — and they serve it up all week long. There's one downtown, one on Taraval Street, and three, count 'em, three, on Clement. Here's the flagship locale: 639 Clement, S.F. (415) 752-5198.

Best Dungeness Crab out of Season

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Continued on page 83

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JANE MORRISON

GUARDIAN PHOTO BY SAUL BROWBERGER AND SANDRA HOOVER PHOTOGRAPHY



LOCAL HERO

When 11 reform-minded, upstart candidates took their seats on the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee in spring 2000, intent on transforming the club from a machine booster into a forum for progressive ideas, they agreed there was only one person who should assume the mantle of leader.

That was 81-year-old Jane Morrison, who, in her long career of nurturing progressive politicians, has been a key player behind the success of a litany of San Francisco's political leaders, including Phil and John Burton, George Moscone, and, ahem, Mayor Willie Brown.

Morrison's early support of Brown was actually a plus: what the DCCC reformers needed was a leader whose longstanding position in the political community would make it very difficult for the mayor's lackeys to mess with her.

But the reformers got something else, too — something so rare in San Francisco political circles that it makes the plain-speaking, Oklahoma native stand out: a leader with a sense of civility and grace.

"Jane Morrison is the bridge, the voice of continuity between San Francisco's progressive past, its progressive present, and its future," Aaron Peskin, part of the DCCC reform pack who went on to become a district supervisor, told us. "Jane was there when Willie Brown was in the infancy of his career. Over the years she has lobbied these leaders, raised money for them, and guided them on the right path. And when they strayed, she was there to tell them in her uncompromising way and with that knowing glint in her eye."

Morrison knows where loyalty stops and principle begins. While she campaigned mightily for Brown in 1995,

by her own admission she took a backseat in 1999 when she became aware of the mayor's wheeling and dealing for his cronies. In the November 2000 races for district supervisor, Morrison broke ranks completely. Indeed, she recalls with amusement a hostile call she received from Brown shortly after she sent out a signed letter of support for Gerardo Sandoval in District 11.

The mayor informed her that as a member of his administration (she serves on the city's Human Services Commission) she should be supporting his candidate, incumbent Rev. Amos Brown. However, after a quick reminder from Morrison of the many fundraisers she has held in her home for him, he quickly backed off. And his candidate lost at the polls.

One of the reasons Morrison is so influential is that she doesn't seek the limelight. In 1959, *McCall's* magazine asked her in an interview how much influence women have in politics. She replied, "When women do the work they often get to call the shots and set the priorities. When the men met all evening in the back room, then came and told us what to do, we kept on doing what we thought best, leaving them to implement their ideas, which they often didn't get around to doing."

But to characterize Morrison as stuck in the kitchen would be vastly inaccurate. Morrison was a pioneer for women in the media, going to work as one of the first female reporters for the Associated Press in 1944. After World War II, when several editors in San Francisco informed her they wouldn't hire female reporters, she took a job at KNBR (now NBC Radio) as a community affairs manager and editorial director. From that post she tried to increase diversity and the role of women in the newsroom.

The story of her life in San Francisco, where she and her now deceased husband, Jack, moved in the early 1950s, is inextricably linked to the political history of the city.

Jane met Jack in a Kansas City bar at a party for the Newspaper Guild when she was working for AP. (They got married less than eight weeks later.) In 1952 the two moved to the city when Jack got a job as a reporter for the *San Francisco Chronicle*. (He was later elected supervisor and ran for mayor unsuccessfully against Joe Alioto.)

The presidential campaign of Adlai Stevenson marked the Morrisons' debut in politics. They kicked off a pattern that would last both their lives: working days at the job, nights walking precincts. The Morrisons were part of a progressive movement in San Francisco that saw the careers of Phil Burton and Willie Brown take off. Then, Jane recalls, politics were simpler: "Being progressive pretty much meant you were for unions and civil rights. It's so much more complicated now."

Morrison has been behind a long list of progressive causes that have informed the S.F. landscape, from efforts in the early 1970s to keep the Port of San Francisco from filling in a portion of the bay for office towers to fighting freeways and protecting open spaces. And she shows no sign of winding down. She's gearing up for San Francisco Tomorrow's fight against the airport's proposal to dump fill in the bay for runways.

"I worked in politics because it was one way to get things done," Morrison says. "You might spend time working in a homeless shelter. Or you might elect someone who's going to really do something about this kind of injustice. And that always seemed better to me in the long run." ❖

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BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Food and Drink

From page 79

from local farmers in season or flown in fresh from Alaska daily when out of season. The quality is ridiculously high, and the quantity of these massive crustaceans is superb too. There is no mistaking a Thanh Long crab for a tiny crawfish. The ones they serve here are so big that you may fear it will eat you first. All three preparations are popular, including the drunken crab served with a wine-and-cognac bath, the roasted garlic, which, while delicious, slathers your sea critter in well more than a stick of butter, and, our personal favorite, the slightly sweet and light tamarind sauce. This is the real San Francisco treat, available any time of the year. 4101 Judah, S.F. (415) 665-1146.

Best Late-Night Burger Joint that Caters to Vegetarians

Since 1951 the classic **Smokehouse**, complete with indoor and outdoor seating, has been serving cheap burgers late at night. Whether you're doing laundry, wandering around Telegraph Avenue, or just hungry at midnight, a meal can be had for under \$6. And the fries are large potato slices with the right amount of grease. Eating outside at the wooden picnic tables in the grass tops off the experience. What's for dessert, you're wondering? Well, the variety of shake flavors offered is obscene, running from the standard chocolate and strawberry to the more exotic peach and boysenberry — all for under \$2. But if you prefer malts, then go for the chocolate. It's possible to call in orders ahead of time. 3115 Telegraph, Berk. (510) 845-3640.

Best Gravy and Hash

Finding the inexpensive and belly-filling **Full House Café** satisfied our need for a killer breakfast joint. We'd been on the quest for homemade biscuits and gravy, like Mom makes in the Midwest, and no place had quenched our desire. Until we found Full House. This diner-style, no-frills establishment serves up delicious biscuits smothered with homemade chicken gravy. If you're more in the mood for hash, the cooks can satisfy that craving as well. Not only is there corned-beef hash hut a red-flannel hash — beets, hacon, potato, and onion — and our favorite, the portobello hash. Two poached eggs and slices of sour-dough round out the expansive meal, all for under \$8. Another bonus: breakfast is served anytime.

3719 MacArthur Blvd., Oakl., (510) 482-2200.

Best Cheap Vegetarian Fare

You've got to love a place that, like **Ananda Fuara**, closes for four weeks out of the year to celebrate important moments in the owner's life. But you particularly have to love the entrées. And breakfast too? You bet. Hotcakes, scrambles, even biscuits and (mushroom) gravy are on the breakfast menu. But dinner here is where it's at. While many of the city's vegetarian restaurants — think Greens or Millennium — are world famous, they are also priced to break the bank. Ananda's menu items, on the other hand, tend to range from five to nine dollars. For the vegans in the house, the potato-tofu ravioli can't be beat, and meat lovers will swear that there must be some cow somewhere in that Neatloaf ... but there ain't! So eat up and feel good about doing so. 1298 Market, S.F. (415) 621-1994.

Best Place to Eat When You've Got a Hangover

Green stuff is good for weekdays, but weekend hangovers require pork products and pancakes. The laid-back atmosphere, friendly (if quirky) staff, mugs, stickers, and disco hits make **Eddie's Café** a cool, nonjudgmental place to start off what may be shaping up to be a rough day. In other words, feel free to drag in looking just as bad as you feel. The crowd at Eddie's won't look twice. The food is standard diner breakfast fare, but it's done well, it's cheap, and most important, it will fill you up after a long night of drowning those dot-bust unemployment blues. 800 Divisadero, S.F. (415) 563-9780.

Best Place to Humiliate Your Dining Companion

Pasha Restaurant is a swanky Middle Eastern place. Its *Arabian Nights* decor and live entertainment make it the perfect spot for a celebratory dinner. But beware! When you enter, you will be asked if anyone in your party is celebrating anything. Point to your target, and the waiter will give the fingered party a nifty fez to wear during dinner. Later, during the floor show, all fez-wearers are summoned to the stage for an impromptu belly-dancing lesson. And no, it doesn't stop there. To "graduate," each student must perform a solo dance for the appreciative audience. It's all in good fun. Take-charge types will love the attention, and even quiet folk* get

Continued on page 85



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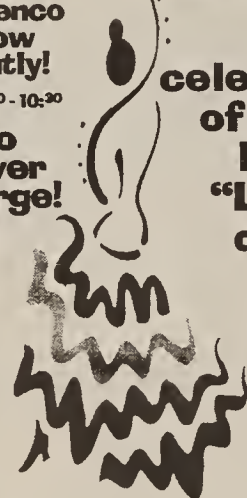
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CHINATOWN

BY JOYCE SLATON



Hello? Hello? The Bank of Canton, which once housed the famous Chinese American Telephone Exchange Building, is the best colorful artifact wrapped up in a Kodak Photo Moment.

GUARDIAN PHOTO BY MELISSA BARNES

By the time you're rolling out of bed and heading blindly for coffee, Chinatown has been up for hours.

Before the sun has even made its first tentative poke around the Transamerica Building, Chinatown's bakers have clanked open the gates of their bakeries on Stockton Street, ready for a day of hungry mouths. They leave their front doors propped open as they knead their dough and stir their fillings, deftly spooning glistening barbecued pork into tray after tray of cha sil bo dough or smoothing pastry tops onto double-yolk moon cakes.

Down the darkened street, trucks are pulling up at produce stores, dropping cardboard boxes groaning with bitter melons, bok choy, and napa cabbage in front of the shuttered markets. The boxes will sit there for an hour or so, molested only by the occasional neighborhood grandma stopping to nibble a leaf and consider what she'll buy for the night's dinner.

Other trucks are arriving on other Stockton Street corners, trucks that smell like fish and seawater, delivering the day's catch. Carp and catfish jump futilely, seething as the drivers lift their black trash cans off the trucks and duck into the doors of still-dark fish markets. Later on, customers will buy those same fish off piles of ice. But for now the stores are inhabited only by sleepy-eyed proprietors hanging luscious pressed and smoked ducks and chickens on hooks in the window, their grease draining into silver pans.

Restaurants also start early in Chinatown, with white-aproned cooks crushing garlic and peeling ginger in little establishments on Broadway or Kearny or Pacific Street before 7 a.m. A mammoth pot of the traditional rice porridge bubbles on the stove for the staff breakfast while cooks prepare to serve the Hong Kong-style bacon-and-eggs breakfasts to customers on their way to work.

By 7 a.m. customers are starting to saunter into the Chinatown cafés, ordering croissants, eggs, rice porridge, and coffee or tea. The locals who work in the neighborhood take the time to sit and gossip about the day's happenings. Those who work outside Chinatown hustle in with a copy of *AsianWeek* or a magazine under their arm, ordering pastries to go that come wrapped in plastic and are presented in a crackling pink bag printed with red roses.

The rest of the neighborhood is starting to wake up too. A small crowd of tai chi practitioners move silently through their morning exercises in sunny Portsmouth Square. Storekeepers on Grant Street sweep their stoops and lay out the souvenir eye candy on tables to tempt the day's wandering tourists. Schoolchildren dart down alleys on the way to school while their grandmothers shuffle out in slippers to the chain-link fence along Hang Ah Alley, feeling the bok choy they've hung there to see if it's dry enough yet for the soup pot.

When the tourists arrive around nine, they'll see none of this. They see only the Chinatown of tourist shops and floating sushi boats and fortune cookie factories. The true life of Chinatown isn't on Grant Street, though, and anyone who rises early and takes in the sight of the neighborhood waking up could tell you that.

Best Alternative to House of Nan King

Pity those poor, poor tourists who believe House of Nan King's guidebook-disseminated hype and queue up in long lunchtime lines. Just two doors down, **Chef Gia's** restaurant plays the part of redheaded stepchild, crowded only with those seriously in the know. Just \$4.50 buys a massive platterful of a lunchtime special like piquant honey-chili chicken, studded with tender pieces of

white meat, or deeply smoky kung pao prawns. 925 Kearny, S.F. (415) 398-1626.

Best Place to Pray for a Prostitute's Soul

Every Chinese temple is dedicated to a particular god or goddess, and penitents who come to seek heavenly favor buy a stick of incense or a printed favor to burn in the deity's sight. If you're asking for otherworldly intervention for a lady of the evening in your life, there might be no greater temple to visit than **Tien Hau Temple**, atop a nearly hundred-year-old building in Waverly Place alley. Ascend the steep steps and pay your respects to Tien Hau, goddess of the heavens and the seas, protector of sailors, prostitutes, actors, writers. 125 Waverly Place, S.F. No telephone.

Best Place to Buy a Ginger Grater

The **Wok Shop** is a relative anomaly on gift shop-choked Grant Street: its windows are stacked high with traditional Chinese cooking gear instead of chirping-frog motion detectors, back scratchers, and 49ers jackets. The proprietors don't suffer fools gladly, either. If, however, you seek cooking tools, they are happy to show you the perfect steamer, wok, tea set, and yes, ginger grater. 718 Grant, S.F. (415) 989-3797.

Best Place to Play a Chin Chin

It's fitting that a music store with an astonishing collection of musical instruments from all over the world should be set in an area of town with such an international collection of visitors. But tread lightly in **Clarion Music's** vault of musical delights, and don't touch without permission, even if it is exciting to see a room full of didgeridoos, wind gongs, sitars, bamboo recorders, and taiko drums. 816 Sacramento, S.F. (415) 391-1317.

Best Buddhist Outreach

It may come as a surprise the first time you see a monk from the **Gold Mountain Sagely Monastery** serenely wandering down

Grant Street in traditional monk's robes. But step inside out of the Sacramento Street hustle and find a quietly, functioning Zen Buddhist monastery. The brothers likely don't relish busloads of tourists stopping in, but respectful visitors are welcome to drop in, meditate, pray, or just ask questions. 800 Sacramento, S.F. (415) 421-6117.

Best Post-Bar Crab Noodles

San Francisco's slim late-night food pickings lead locals to congregate in some pretty odd spots. But you won't find odder than **Sam Woh**, the cheap but yummy dive that's been serving up hot food to late-nighters for decades. Hidden at the top of three flights of stairs, Sam Woh has been a habitat for both hippies and Herb Caen in its time. Locals tend to stop by for a late breakfast, as Sam Woh serves traditional Chinese congee along with gelatinous, green thousand-year-old eggs, which may be a bit of an acquired taste even if they're not actually a thousand years old. Sadly, Edsel Ford Fong, once known as the rudest waiter in San Francisco, has died, but the congee remains. 813 Washington, S.F. (415) 982-0596.

Best Colorful Artifact Wrapped Up in a Kodak Photo Moment

Most people snap shots of the **Chinese American Telephone Exchange Building** just off Grant Street because of the building's colorful gold-and-red chinoiserie exterior and triple-curved roofs. But it's what used to be inside that building that's really interesting. The site housed the Chinese American Telephone Exchange, a switchboard that served Chinese-speaking phone customers before the age of direct-dial. The exchange's operators, each of whom spoke several dialects of Chinese as well as English, memorized thousands of numbers, names, and addresses of subscribers and were said to be able to connect a caller to the requested party without stopping to consult a phone book. Good thing, since there weren't any yet. Stories abound of the operators, all of whom were women, walking the neighborhood during their lunch hour to learn more addresses. But few in Chinatown remember the exchange, which closed in 1949, and the Bank Of Canton now occupies the site. 743 Washington, S.F. No telephone. ❖

BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Food and Drink

From page 83

into the spirit. Only the pathologically shy will be scarred for life. But we'd rather watch. 1516 Broadway, S.F. (415) 885-4477.

Best Place to Watch a Curse in Action

In 1919 the Boston Red Sox incurred "the Curse of the Bambino" when they sold Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees. They haven't won the World Series since; that's one of the longest dry spells in baseball history. The best place to witness the unfolding of the Red Sox' 82nd-annual cursed season is **Boston Spirits** on Polk Street. The local bar of choice for Boston expats, Boston Spirits is the place to watch each Red Sox game with a dedicated crowd that still has nightmares about the error that cost the Sox the 1986 Series. Boston's in the hunt for a play-off berth this year, but come October, they will have to beat more than their opponents. 1750 Polk, S.F. 409-0177.

Best Food in a Dive Bar

When in bars, we normally steer clear of any food more complicated than bar kibble. We've heard too many stories of plastic sandwiches kept on hand to be fed to the unwary. But there's no plastic on the menu at **Kubala's Kitchen at the Tempest**. Its boast of having "possibly the best burger around" is not an idle one; the burger is an extremely tasty one-third pound of good ground beef expertly grilled and served on a French roll. It's a definite contender. And the rest of the menu, composed of standard fare like roast-beef sandwiches and Caesar salads, is equally well executed. It's not for nothing that a mix of *San Francisco Chronicle* workers, bike messengers, and other assorted SoMa types crowd Kubala's at lunch. Great, simple food, good prices — it's a radical concept in this town. 431 Natoma, S.F. (415) 495-1863.

Best 99¢ New York Experience

Yes, yes, we can't stand hearing transplanted East Coasters whining about how much they miss New York perks either. If we have to hear one more word about the fall colors, the deli food, and the late-night restaurants left behind, we may well puke. But at least on one score the ex-Manhattanites do have a point: California bagels suck rocks. As any bagel lover could tell you, the classic bagel is chewy and rubbery, served


with lox or butter or a schmear of cream cheese and not, for God's sake, containing freaky goyish ingredients like chocolate chips or sundried tomatoes. **Manhattan Bagel Company** offers one of the few bagels in town that actually lives up to its name, and if you don't like classic flavors like poppy, onion, garlic, and salt then tough, 'cause you're not getting any pansy-ass Asiago-prosciutto bagel here. 1206 Masonic, S.F. (415) 626-9111; 3872 24th St., S.F. (415) 647-3334.

Best Southern Soul Food like Grandma Used to Make

With all the various flavors of San Francisco — the ginger blast of Southeast Asia, the chiles of Latin America, Gallic garlic, and so on — one foodie demographic remains underrepresented: Southern home cooking. Oh sure, Biscuits and Blues whips out an upscale version of the cuisine, and J's Pots of Soul on Octavia makes a mean chicken and dumplings when it's open. But if you're looking for real old-school Southern food on a regular basis, **Powell's Place** in Hayes Valley will become your second home. The service is slow, and the iced tea is instant rather than sugar-choked Red Rose made in a glass pitcher. But taste the fried chicken, oxtail soup, and catfish fried in cornmeal with a side of pinto beans, and you'll swear Powell's stole your granny's recipes. Top things off with an order of greens cooked in bacon drippings and you've got a feast that will make you blink back tears and think of Tara. 511 Hayes, S.F. (415) 863-1404.

Best Place to Grab a Sandwich Before You Head across the Golden Gate Bridge

There's absolutely nothing gourmet about a turkey sub from **Viking's Giant Submarines**: it's got shredded iceberg lettuce, runny mayonnaise dressing, and a handful of thinly sliced turkey. The sandwich's charms are at least partly derived from the couple of minutes each sub spends in the oven. With heat, the roll gets crispy on the edges, the cheese and pepper and turkey stew together, and something truly addictive is created. The large sub is enough for two people, so as long as you don't happen to go with someone determined to sample that crab-salad nonsense, so sharing is a particularly smart way to enjoy a Viking sandwich. Also, there's a 10-minute parking spot in front where your car can sit before making the journey down motel-lined Lombard Street and onto the bridge. 1418 Lombard, S.F. (415) 673-5619. ☘



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THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Viva the grit

By *Amanda Nowinski*

Anyone seen a god on the dance floor lately? If you have, chances are you're either dead and working it with the legendary Paradise Garage DJ Larry Levan up in disco heaven, or you've been spending a lot of time in tiny local sweatboxes, avoiding the trance and progressive house weekend masses. That said, a very fierce, cutely dressed god gets his groove on Tuesday nights in the Mission at a club called Taboo, where the mostly black, gay crowd knows how to party like it's 2001 — mainly because it is.

Tuesday night at Taboo may be too packed and steamy for your typical Marina set, but who really cares? Taboo promoter and DJ David Harness plays the deepest, sweetest garage, made for people who like to sing in the shower and shake their hips to a bpm that doesn't rely on an ounce of crystal meth for inspiration. Here the devoted dancers know the music well, have a background in disco, and thus understand where dance music — and therefore clubbing — comes from. And as ultimate proof that this crowd is filled with love, David can turn off the sound in the middle of his set and leave the crowd belting out lyrics ecstatically. I'll bet you a dime bag that this sense of euphoria is not pharmaceutically induced. Taboo is all about the simple, clean purity of getting dirty among strangers to gritty, real music, not ephemeral, funkless tracks.

For these reasons, I think Taboo is the Bay Area's best house club. Not because it's the biggest club, the most exclusive, the most profitable, or the best dressed. Here it comes down to that elusive, annoying little phrase of which clubbers never seem to tire: the vibe. Ugh. As much as I'd like to avoid clichés, there's just no other way to describe it.

But substitute the music at David's night with any other quality sound, and you have another top-notch club — as long as you keep that musically informed level of underground sophistication. And if you keep the Taboo price (\$3), it's even better. Times are rough, and although some of us may have \$20 to spend just to watch suburban strippers in cowboy hats get off to boring

Muzak, there's really no reason to do it. If that's the scene you want, you're much better off going to the Mitchell Brothers' O'Farrell Theater for an extra 10 bones.

With tired old Bush in the house and not much extra money for the young ones to spend, the anticonventional, more-subversive underground is once again the place to be. Take a look around, and you'll see that creativity is on the rise. Juju of Phunkateck is doing it with drum 'n' bass on Tuesdays at Phuturo, DJ Design with hip-hop on Wednesdays at Gather 'Round, and JP and Dom Some with 2 step on Fridays at Step. Slightly dingy, always without a dress code, and intimate by necessity, the smaller, more subterranean music scene is suddenly feeling more alive.

Certainly local club culture has changed a lot since the early '90s, when the dance music and hip-hop underground pulled strangers into a diverse musical landscape filled with every imaginable color, sexuality, and sound. Now you can find listings in the local newspapers, on Web sites, and in the host of new club mags popping up. Some of our DJs are even becoming internationally recognized producers. So if all you want to do is get your ass on the dance floor, the opportunity to do so has never been more plentiful.

But along with the mainstreaming comes a lot of bad music. This is not just a local phenomenon, either. Mel Cheren, the financial backer of the Paradise Garage and owner of the legendary West End Records label, told me that even the best New York DJs can't get gigs — dancers would rather pay \$30 to hear Sasha and Digweed's crappy drug trance than pay half the price to hear Masters at Work. Quality is now of utmost importance. We can no longer take the real shit for granted.

So this year we're paying respects to the smaller events that uphold the virtues of good music. You're not going to find the greatest music on the main dance floors at the major clubs, where weekend promoters are finding it much more profitable to pander to the commercialized, frumpy, bootyless styles. Ever wonder what the

Pac Heights crowd is up to these days? Big clubs hold your answer. Even the old deep house promoters Martel and Nabel of Release are putting harder music on the main floor and keeping the more soulful sounds to the less populated VIP room. Recently we've witnessed some of the city's biggest promoters cashing in on the newly established mainstream palette, and because they're able to pack nightclubs by the hundreds, there's no reason for them to go back. Raunchy, funky house and garage as citywide aesthetics are giving way to trance and progressive house.

But that's all right. Mediocre music fills a need, and what has survived is remarkable indeed. This year we've seen the 10-year anniversary of some of our best events — Wicked, Come-Unity, the Bulletproof Boat, and Pepper. All these parties maintain that original S.F. vibe: a little crunchy, earthy to the core, and antithetical to the strait-laced cheese. Props to the promoters of these events for keeping that old-school vision alive.

So if you look to the sidelines, to the smaller venues, the less advertised nights, you'll find the quality sounds of the future. Mr. Brown's Elephunk, a Wednesday live hip-hop night, is revitalizing the bohemian beats, Mark Herlihy's Future Primitive Sounds is still going strong with all its turntable ingenuity, DJ Said brings quality East Coast house DJs to San Francisco once a month at Atmosfere, Groundscore keeps the house packed with a mixed bag of jungle and breaks every week on Saturdays at Eklektic, and Lady Base and Derek B of Off the Hook are reinvigorating the gay scene with hip-hop, electro, and freestyle — with a positively mixed result. Many serious house heads are still too pussy to check out the Endup's T-Dance, but that's their loss — trannies and freaks are perhaps too much for the cleaner S.F. crowds, but later that night at the Endup, DJ Ruben Mancias keeps the garage and deep house pumping to a classier Sunday crowd.

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BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Best Cruel-to-Be-Kind Bartender

When the weary, dispossessed San Francisco scene haters finally inherit the earth, they will no doubt choose the **Ha-Ra Club's** regular night bartender, Carl, to serve them a well-deserved pint or 12 in barfly heaven. Carl's off-kilter sense of humor is scathingly disorienting — like, perhaps, that of a wasp in clown shoes, and his quick-poured shots sting just as much. He's the perfect foil for the overhopped, draught jockeys of postmillennial San Francisco as he shuffles from tap to tap with a sense of purpose unknown in trendier bars: he's here to get your drinks, and that's what really matters. A night under Carl's rule typically includes some dirty jokes, a couple shots of Wild Turkey, a song or two from San Francisco's most straightforward jukebox, and a few verbal barbs directed at the pathetic-tipping yuppies at the end of the bar (they never seem to stay long). "Closin' time!" shouts the wearied barman at 1:42 a.m. "But, Carl, can we sneak in another shot?" "Good night," he replies. "God bless. Now get the hell outta here." 675 Geary, S.F. (415) 673-3148.

Best Lounge Wallpaper with Soul

We will not let the gorgeous (and affordable) Ethiopian menu, the great selection of beer and wine, or the friendliness of the owners sway us: our favorite reason for hanging out at **Club Waziema** is its original 1940s wallpaper. Its deep-sheened blood-red background sets off the flowery pattern of black-flocked velvet that clings to its face. Its organic luxury is as astounding as it is rare in this shiny millennial town, as is the lounge's 50-year history as a jazz, soul, and funk club. You can just picture Ike and Tina oohing and aahing over the velvety walls before hopping onstage for one of their many performances at the club in the '60s. Or the smoke of the jazz greats who made the club their hangout wafting upward past the clinging-vine pattern as they sipped their favorite drinks. And the laid-back atmosphere of the club today makes it even more astounding, 'cause the decor's delicate beauty could easily grace a roped-off museum wall, available for viewing only with paid admission. 543 Divisadero, S.F. (415) 346-6641.

Best Local Black Metal Band

When the fog hits the dark stage and thundering riffs tear through

the fear-frozen crowd, you know you're in the path of the **Hammers of Misfortune**, purveyors of a sound darker than the pitch tar at the bottom of hell's deepest pit. From the darkness the four-piece emerges: three longhaired men whose collective countenance recalls that of Ozzy just after biting the head off a bat and one bass-wielding female dressed head-to-toe in a half-zipped winged leather getup. Sounding more like an early-'90s Norwegian outfit than like a contemporary San Francisco thing, the band has an unstoppable stage presence that has gained them a number of die-hard metalhead fans, and their unique mix of death obsession, bookish cerebralism, and punk glamour hasn't hurt their reputation with the indie rockers, either. Their new concept-based album, *The Bastard*, is the epic story of luck gone bad and hellfire gone high, and the depth of their musical experience (Hammers include former or current members of Stone Fox, L7, Osgood Slaughter, and Floufeg) is evidenced by their deft handling of metal, punk, stoner rock, and even garage elements. They can be found playing semiregular gigs at the Covered Wagon Saloon's Lucifer's Hammer and opening for visiting metal acts of all species. Check the Bay Guardian *music listings* for upcoming shows.

Best Name for a Bar That Took the Place of One That Is sorely Missed

For those of us who still remember the Chameleon (RIP) with fond memories (and the Chatterbox before that), there is something comical yet disturbing in the fact that a bar called **Amnesia** has taken up residence in its place. Nostalgic diehards that we are, in the last couple of years we've only peeked in while walking by, hesitating to go any farther than the doorway for fear that actually going inside would be ... well, sacrilege. The Chameleon may have had one of the crappiest P.A.s ever, but as a dive venue it blew away what few places are left in town for live bands, by a long shot. And while we feel it may be time to move into a head space of closure and acceptance, and we realize that Amnesia may not be a bad place at all and could very well be worth checking out, well, we've been meaning to do so — we just keep forgetting. 853 Valencia, S.F. (415) 970-8336.

Continued on page 93

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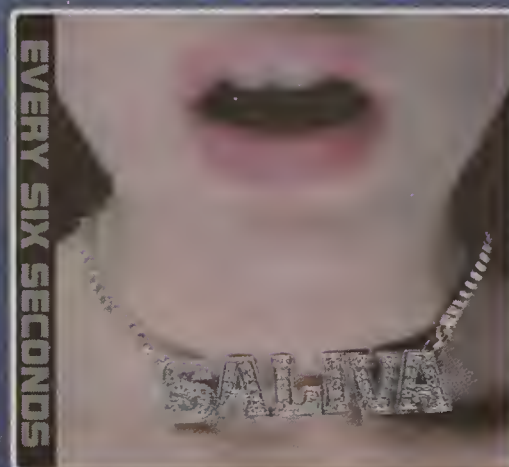
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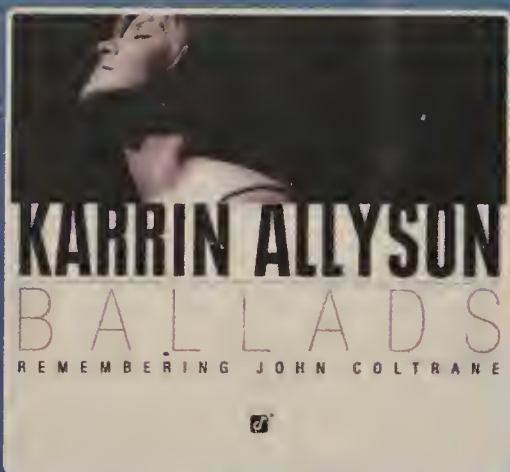
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THE NATION'S ORIGINAL



Danke: From left, bartender Megan Heller, Nicole Zydycrn, Beth Mickelson, and Steven Grigsby bend a few elbows at Suppenküche, the Best International Scene.

After Dark

From page 88

Best International Scene

Suppenküche is a German restaurant with a decidedly European atmosphere. You won't find lederhosen or oompah bands here; nonetheless, everybody is just having a great time. Since we don't like to let people down, we like to saddle right up to the nearest accent and join in the festivities. The family-style bench seating encourages new friendships. And just like the soup kitchen of the name, everybody — from travelers clutching copies of *Let's Go* to stately financiers on lay-over from Amsterdam — is welcome. Don't go here to hear yourself think. After work, think yourself here. 601 Hayes, S.F. (415) 252-9289, www.suppenkuche.com.

Best Place to Get Free Drinks

Before you order your next Haleakala Sunrise at the **Lilo Lounge**, look around and survey the happy-hour house. Bat your lashes and evaluate your odds. The drinks are over-the-top and the clientele is considerably under-the-bottom, if you know what we mean. What we mean is, if you play your cards right, your next drink

might be free. It happened to us once. We're not saying it's going to happen to you. We're just saying that if it does, the Lilo is a great place to have it happen. It's the most underrated tiki bar this side of Polynesia. 1469 18th St., S.F. (415) 643-5678.

Best Place to Experience Musical Schizophrenia

Club kids tend to be a finicky bunch — one lame song can send them streaming from the dance floor in droves. So it must have seemed like quite a triumph when the DJs who play at the mobile **Future Primitive Sound Sessions** started successfully mixing genres as well as records. We're not just talking about playing a drum 'n' bass track during a house set. That's easy. We're talking about slipping between disco, hip-hop, soul, rock, and country in the space of 10 minutes — and still managing to keep the crowd rocking and smiling through it all. Breakdancers are common at the shows, and while watching them is a treat in itself, it's even more of a treat to watch them continue to pop and wiggle even though the DJ just segued from the Pharcyde to Lynyrd Skynyrd. The shows are an amazing journey through sound,

providing a musical history lesson that sounds like the future. (415) 437-2328.

Best Place in Berkeley to Hustle Pool

On a busy night at **Thallasa**, after you flash your ID, you take a number. Tables are often full after 9 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday, which must be why the club raises the price of an after-9 p.m. pool table from \$5 to \$10 an hour. But that just gives you time to set your number on the bar and drink a few cold ones while checking out the decor. Thallasa is the bar Ariel, the "Little Mermaid," might have found on the wrong side of the tracks under the sea, if you catch our drift. It's fishing nets, fish (live and stuffed), boating gear, buoys, and naked mermaids in a bigger jumble than the beach after a storm. There are also plenty of quality pinball machines. And the jukebox is stacked with the kind of funky tunes that make you understand what it must feel like to be a hustler at that moment when you start sinking balls in earnest, when green stops being the color of the felt on the pool table and starts being the color of money. Remember, folks, there's trouble

Continued on page 94

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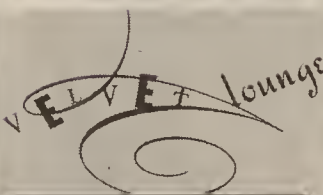
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After Dark

From page 93

coming with a capital T, and that
rhymes with P, and that stands for
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Best Place to Go Boing, Boing, Boing

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Continued on page 96

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THE NATION'S ORIGINAL



Feathers and stuff: The Owl Tree is the Best Place to Go Urban Bird-Watching.

After Dark

From page 94

boots, and red lipstick, shakin' their thing on top of the bar? It's no secret that the Large and Lovely Go-Go Girls who grace **Stinky's Peep Show** at the Covered Wagon every Thursday night are a spectacle unto themselves. But if you can peel your eyes off the girls for just a moment, you'll see that those who are watching them dance their sexy girth atop a pool table are also a treat. Big ol' teddy bear punk rockers come from miles around in their studly greaser leather jackets, well-slicked hair, and goatees to watch these girls. If you've been looking for a hunk of manly man, you'll want to come in and take your pick. If the Bettie Page-Marilyn era is what you find sexy in either sex, you are guaranteed a big, fat eyeful. *Covered Wagon, 917 Folsom, S.F. (415) 974-1585.*

Best Place to Go Urban Bird-Watching

Walk into the **Owl Bar** and you'll notice that owner C. Bobby has, well, a thing for owls. Owls. Lots and lots of owls. No, more owls than that. Virtually everywhere that one could conceivably affix a decorative owl, C. Bobby has affixed one. To say that he cornered the tacky owl market would be an understatement. After a few moments of avian-

induced vertigo, however, you'll discover that this theater district bar is a class act. From the ice in the urinals to the immaculate bar with Wet-Naps on the counter to drinks that are stiffer than Jerry Falwell at Bondage-A-Go-Go, the Owl Tree has all the accoutrements of a joint that one would expect in a theater district bar. But it's the owls that make the place. No matter how many times you go, you never really get used to them staring at you from all sides of the room. It's creepy and gauche and somewhat unnerving. But most of all it's a damn fine bar. *601 Post, S.F. (415) 776-9344.*

Best Bas-Relief in a Dive Bar

The **711 Club** is one of the few nonswanky places with a downtown address where you can get liquored up. Instead of being elegant, it's more a watering hole of convenience and value. Cheap drinks, big crowds, or the blaring television are enough to block out most stimuli, but next time you're in there, take a much more careful look at the oddly fancy bas-relief that surrounds the tables in the back. The sparkly ceiling is nice, as are the ample booths down low. But the massive wall sculpture of Amazon goddesses chasing deer, or perhaps being chased by deer, with arrows flying all over the place, is just downright odd. And it is not

Continued on page 100

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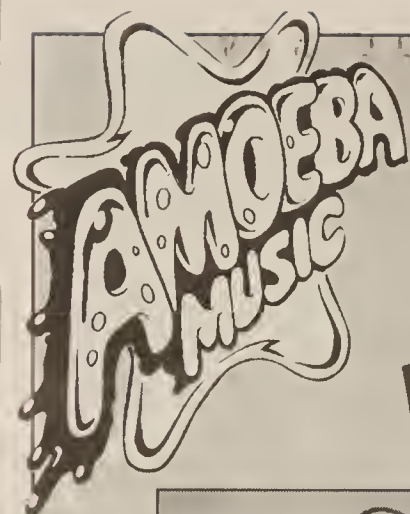
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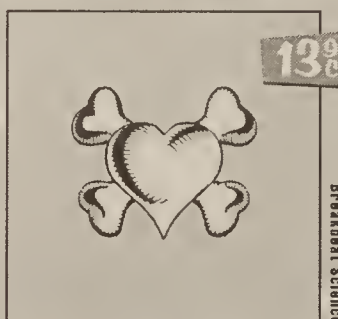
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Jazz In Flight Concert Series Programs and Artists subject to change.

Monday August 13 8 AND 10 PM \$35 reserved, \$22 general

Anthony Brown's Asian American Orchestra "Celebrating the Spirit of Lester Bowie"

with Don Moye and Bob Stewart

Anthony Brown's Asian American Orchestra will premiere a newly commissioned work commemorating the music and spirit of Lester Bowie. Long time Bowie collaborators tubaist Bob Stewart from Brass Fantasy and percussionist Famoudou Don Moye, who shared 30 years with Lester in the Art Ensemble of Chicago, will join the Orchestra in this tribute concert opening the 12th Annual Eddie Moore Jazz Festival.

Tuesday August 14 8 AND 10 PM \$35 reserved, \$22 general

David S. Ware Quartet

with William Parker, Matthew Shipp and Guillermo E. Brown

For over two decades, Ware has been honing his chops as a tenor-sax player and has recorded with Cecil Taylor in the mid-'70s and Andrew Cyrille's Maono in the '80s. This Quartet plays Jazz for the 21st century.

Wednesday August 15 8 AND 10 PM \$35 reserved, \$22 general

8 Bold Souls

Ed Wilkerson's Stunning Octet from Chicago

This AACM-based octet led by Chicago saxophonist/composer Ed Wilkerson is one of the wittiest and most engaging new-jazz ensembles going. The unusual instrumentation—two reeds, two brass, cello, bass, tuba, and drums—provides a distinctive, bottom-heavy edge, and Wilkerson's compositions accentuate that without skimping on melody or rhythmic drive.

Thursday August 16 8 AND 10 PM \$35 reserved, \$22 general

Oliver Lake Steel Quartet

Master Alto Saxophonist Meets Steel Drums

Veteran alto saxophonist Lake last graced the Festival stage in the unique Trio 3 + 1 in 1994. In his newest group, he plays off of the resonant rhythms of a steel drum. The Quartet includes Reginald Washington, Damon Duewhite and Lyndon Achee.

Friday August 17 8 AND 10 PM \$50 reserved, \$26 general

Saturday August 18 8 AND 10 PM \$50 reserved, \$26 general

Paul Motian Quintet

with Joe Lovano, Bill Frisell, Ed Schuller and Billy Drewes

This special edition of the Paul Motian Quintet reunites for this one-time event. The renowned drummer rejoins former bandmates Bill Frisell, Ed Schuller and Joe Lovano, with Billy Drewes standing-in for the late Jim Pepper.

Sunday August 19 SPECIAL 2 PM MATINEE AND 8 PM \$20 general

Pieces of Time

Percussion Quartet led by Andrew Cyrille
with Don Moye, Obo Addy and Tani Tabbal

The Festival closes with a reunion of sorts, a continuation of percussive music. It began with the landmark 1983 recording with Andrew Cyrille, Don Moye, Milford Graves, and Kenny Clarke. Few free-jazz drummers play with a tenth of Cyrille's grace and authority. His energy is unflagging, his power absolute, tempered only by an ever-present sense of propriety.

TICKETS: Yoshi's Box Office 510-238-9200
or ticketweb.com

INFO: www.jazzinflight.org

Jazz In Flight members qualify for Festival discounts

NORTH

BEACH

BY JOSHUA DAVIS



Fresh baked: Jacqueline of Café Jacqueline serves up the treats at the Best Place to Play Foolsie.

GUARDIAN PHOTO BY MELISSA BARNES

Like Haight-Ashbury, North Beach has long lived in the shadow of its famous past. There is a sense that the ballyhooed excesses and achievements of Kerouac, Ginsberg, and Ferlinghetti have turned the neighborhood into a charming relic better suited for tourists than residents. Indeed, Kerouac probably couldn't afford to live in present-day North Beach. And yet the passion for living that these writers and poets exemplified has not wilted in a museum but rather still growls, howls at times, and certainly does not go quietly into the night. The neighborhood's writers can be found happily drunk at the local bars, while its chefs (artists in their own right) create swirling dada-esque works of momentary art on a nightly basis. Following in famous footsteps, filmmakers at Caffè Trieste wrestle with budgets alongside venture capitalists wondering which art film to rent for the evening.

North Beach's eclectic, tightly packed gathering of high-end restaurants, strip clubs, Chinatown overflow, tourists, locals, bars, and shops makes it one of San Francisco's most pleasurable neighborhoods. Old men chattering in Italian and the smell of cappuccino melt into Chinatown's aromas of ginseng and raw fish, punctuated by innumerable Mandarin dialogues. It is a feast of a neighborhood. The food is too good, the views too dramatic, and the confluence of culture too impressive for it to be anything other than perpetually inspiring.

Best Café for Trying to Shed Your Anonymity

The narrow **North End Caffè** is a reminder of what bars should be: small, inviting, and friendly. It's not the kind of place you go hoping to be anonymous. The 12 bar stools and narrow well enforce a sense of conviviality that is only exacerbated by the house sangria. It's almost impossible not to meet someone interesting here. On the other hand, if you're looking to hide out, the tiny, rarely frequented upstairs is an ideal place to disappear for a few hours of concentrated work. 1402 Grant, S.F. (415) 956-3350.

Best Place to Play Foolsie

There are few things more romantic in San Francisco than sharing a warm chocolate soufflé at a candlelit, beflowered table at **Café Jacqueline**. At other restaurants, small rooms can be overpoweringly noisy. But at Jacqueline's, patrons are awed either by the cooking or by their dinner companion's charms. Either way, the hushed and expectant atmosphere is the perfect setting for playing a thrilling game of foolsie. Fortified by an earthy, autumnal glass of Côte du Rhône (also shared), you'll float out to the picturesque street with a warm glow that encompasses everyone in your party and maybe even some strangers. 1454 Grant, S.F. (415) 981-5565.

Best Place to Buy Postcards Featuring Richard Nixon

If you've been searching for a postcard featuring a family of nudists, you're in luck. **Quantity Postcards**, on Grant Street, not only has that postcard, it has thousands of others. Not all of them depict nudists, but that sad fact is more than compensated for by the various cards featuring Richard Nixon, apes, and copulating slugs. There's a postcard to fit nearly every mood: shaved chicken butts, Dolly Parton, suggestive fruit, John Lennon, and clitoris locks. Interestingly, the one thing you'll be hard-pressed to find is touristy postcards of San Francisco. It's patently refreshing, in fact, to walk in on a damp, foggy day and not see a single cheesy shot of the Golden Gate Bridge in full sunshine. 1441 Grant, S.F. (415) 986-8866.

Best Restaurant for Contemplating Pictures of Forlorn Afghani Herdsmen

Despite North Beach's famed Italian past, one of the best neighborhood restaurants is Afghani. **Helmand** is innocuously wedged in between competing strip joints on Broadway but has a surprisingly upscale look inside. More to the point, the food is great. Take, for example, the vegetarian special, a sampler plate of baked pumpkin, okra curry, and cinnamon and saffron rice. The complimentary warm flat-bread appetizer that precedes it is a pleasing break from the mounds of baguette and olive oil served at the local Italian eateries. And though the ancient brick wall that runs the length of the restaurant places you firmly in old San Francisco, the mysterious pictures of forlorn Afghani herdsmen and stark desert landscapes make for an enchantingly Middle Eastern evening. 430 Broadway, S.F. (415) 362-0641.

Best Bakery for a Focaccia Fix

If a bakery can support itself for decades by only selling focaccia, you know one of two things is true: either its patrons are loyal idiots or the focaccia is damn good. Those who are familiar with **Liguria**, a bakery that has exclusively sold focaccia since 1911, would argue in favor of the latter. Unfortunately the focaccia generally sells out in the middle of the day, so the curious better get there early. Focaccia cravers who come too late are met with closed doors and a simple piece of dirty, slightly crumpled paper taped to the window that reads Sold Out. The owners of Liguria must know that unanswered cravings only grow in intensity. Maybe they deliberately restrict the supply of focaccia. After all, scarcity breeds respect. 1700 Stockton, S.F. (415) 421-3786.

Best Place to Look at Art near a Fish Pond

From its roost on Chestnut the **San Francisco Art Institute** hovers over North Beach like a postindustrial artistic garrison. The ambitious architecture of the school's cement buildings stands as inspiration for all who try to do grand things with meager materials. Visitors are welcome to explore the institute's courtyard, which features works by students along with a pretty fish pond. The Diego Rivera Gallery, adjacent to the courtyard, often exhibits student work in a more complete and formal fashion. The room's towering mural, painted by Rivera, is one of the institute's highlights. For a real treat, find your way up to the top of the school's outdoor theater for a stupendous view of North Beach and Fisherman's Wharf. You'll find that the institute encapsulates the vitality of both North Beach and San Francisco. 800 Chestnut, S.F. (415) 771-2021.

Best Pizzeria for Worshipping James Dean

Among its many laurels, **Golden Boy Pizza**, on Green Street, can still claim to be the only slice in North Beach. The line on a Friday night proves it. Every half-drunk individual who feels guilty about skipping dinner gathers raucously in front of the pizzeria's front serving window. The interior is a corrugated-iron wonderland filled with mystical James Dean shrines and flyers for local events. Unfortunately the much revered old refrigerator has been replaced. No longer will you be able to feast your eyes on bumper stickers that offer such potent insights as "Jerry Falwell: Suck my ass you useless shitbag." But now there's a clean slate and plenty of virgin refrigerator for the latest religious wisdom. 542 Green, S.F. (415) 982-9738. ♦

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THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY THE NATION'S ORIGINAL



High tea: They're buzzed at the Endup, whose Sunday T-Dance is the Best Classic After-Hours Joint.

After Dark

From page 96

only an ill-conceived artistic vision but also far too fancy for a place frequented by a crowd mostly there for the free pretzels. But just like the clientele, this strangeness is part of the popular evening- and nightspot's appeal. 711 Market, S.F. (415) 777-4455.

Best Bar for Showing Off Your Tattoos

It's easy to miss the entrance to the **Ruby Room**. We've walked by the jewelry display window advertising the bar many times. Inside the red-hued drinking establishment, though, it's not as easy to miss all the skin art. Sleeveless shirts and tank tops are the staple, as hipsters strut their body designs to the

beats spun by the DJs. Whether the music's theme is "Soulvation" or "The Reagan Years" or "Dedicated Followers of Fashion" or "Punk Night," if you've got some new ink, this is the place to showcase it. There's also a pool table and a couch that snakes the wall in the back for those who want to sit in the bright light for better exposure (or to shoot a game). 132 14th St., Oakl. (510) 444-7224.

Best Classic After-Hours Joint

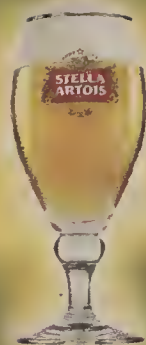
It doesn't get any more old school than the Endup's Sunday **T-Dance**, which opens at 6 a.m. and closes right before DJ Ruben Mancias's new night, **Devotion** (8 p.m. to 2 a.m.). This insanely fun mixed gay and straight party is going on its 19th year and hosts some of the city's best house music DJs, like

Jason Hayes, Nobel, David Harness, Blackstone, Charlotte the Baroness, Neon Leon, George Martinez, and Larry Reed. Older ravers and clubbers remember the joint as the consummate pit stop after hours, where you would bask in the sun on the patio, sip Bloody Marys, and reminisce about the night before. Ah, those were the days, and it's good news to know that the new generation is following in those party-on footsteps. God bless the Endup, and may she never shut her black rubber gates. **Endup**, 401 Sixth St., S.F. (415) 357-0827.

Best Exotic Nonalcoholic Drinks

Plenty of bars around town are happy to serve you all sorts of elaborate alcoholic confections. But only **Jazz at Pearl's Nightclub** exercises mixo-

Continued on page 103



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Lips apart, teeth together: They've got smiles and oh so much more at Off the Hook, the Best New Mixed Club.

After Dark

From page 100

logical expertise equally well for the teetotalers in the crowd. Of course, Pearl's offers a full line of potent cocktails. But for those who prefer to take their jazz with a clear head, there are enticingly titled nonalcoholic concoctions such as the Blood Count (tomato juice, Tabasco sauce), the Little Brown Book (coke, whipped cream, grenadine), and our favorite, the Juicy Lucy (orange, cranberry, pineapple). There's more to being a designated driver at Pearl's than a steady stream of cokes and Shirley Temples. 256 Columbus, S.F. (415) 291-8255.

Best New Mixed Club

Who says gay clubs have to be all about house music? Not DJs Lady Base and Derek B, who run **Off the Hook**, a good-time, mixed monthly event that focuses on electro, hip-hop, breakbeat, booty bass, freestyle, and funk. Here you'll find more of a get-down-and-shake-it vibe than you might at a regular hip-hop night, and the fashion sense is definitely on the crazy runway tip. This party wanders among different venues, so keep an eye out for posters and flyers around town. *The next*

Off the Hook takes place July 28, 10 p.m.-3 a.m., Border Cantina, 1192 Folsom, S.F. (415) 505-1137.

Best Corner to Watch the Ebb and Surge of Upscale Nightlife

The young, gorgeous, and loaded crowd is the pickiest one in town. One minute the limos are double-parked in front of the club, disgorging giddy, well-heeled hordes brandishing exotic credit cards. Then they're gone like thieves in the night, on to the next hot spot, leaving only a vacant building to mark their passing. The premier venue for this revolving-club phenomena is the oft remodeled building at **2101 Polk St., a.k.a. 1500 Broadway**, on the northwest corner of those streets. Offhand, we remember seeing Henry Africa's, Earl's, the Tin Palace, Johnny Love's, and Club Coup in the space. We're sure we're leaving a few out. Minus fallow time, the tenant's half-life is about two years. We can only hope that Harry Denton, currently holding down the fort with Rouge, has an escape clause in his lease.

Best 'Anti-Frat' Bar

Given its location, the **Other Place** could easily be crammed with Bud-

swilling USF law students and the sequined soccer moms-to-be who love them. But management has chosen the high road by providing Clement Street with not just a Bohemian alternative but the finest frat-free fun zone this side of 22nd Street and Mission. The atmosphere is refreshingly free of the stale odor of success. Who wants to talk about stock options — the raffish regulars would rather show off their new tattoos and play ribald Drink or Dare games in the back booth while the bartenders discuss Sartre and plan one-way trips to Australia. Both the pool table and the pinball machine are well used, and punk rock is prominent on the jukebox. In the Other Place, no one ever dances on the bar. South Park is a show, not a street. And the only shouts of "woo-hoo" are ironic. 408 Clement, S.F. (415) 831-7522.

Best Punk Rock Dive Bar

Most of what people call dive bars were once decent, if not nice, drinking spots that fell on hard times. Not the **Tempest**. We suspect it's always been a dive (of the best sort), since the day it opened. This place was never fancy. The

Continued on page 106

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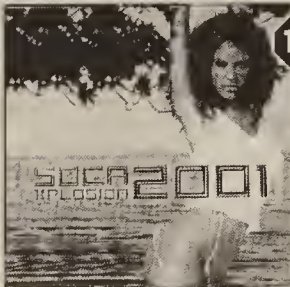


12⁹⁹ CD

Various Artists

This collection features some of the leading Nordic women who are taking the music of their foremothers and making it relevant to today.

SOCA XPLOSION 2001

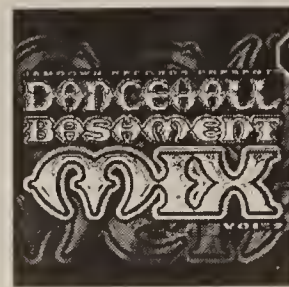


12⁹⁹ CD

Various Artists

If you're ready for the true Caribbean flavor, then Soca Xplosion 2001 is a must have this summer. This energetic and fun music, which originated from Trinidad, has quickly spread throughout all the Caribbean islands and USA.

DANCEHALL BASHMENT MIX VOL. 2



12⁹⁹ CD

Various Artists

Contains 23 blazing hit tracks! It features the biggest and brightest Reggae/Dancehall artists including all the top riddims and slamin' hit singles! This album is guaranteed to keep you partying from the opening intro to the very end.

JERRY SEINFELD



13⁹⁹ CD

Jerry Seinfeld On Comedy

Jerry Seinfeld treats us to the secrets of his success as a comedian. Learn the art of comedy from the master. So take advantage of his lapse in judgement and buy this CD before your neighbor gets a sitcom before you do. Enjoy!

ROLAND BELMARES



12⁹⁹ CD

Circuit Sessions 8

Roland Belmares is one of the top three Circuit Party DJs in America, ranking up there with label-mates Manny Lehman and DJ Abel. He has played at some of the biggest circuit parties in the US including: Meltdown, Winter Party, Fireball, and White Party Palm Springs.

THE CRYSTAL METHOD



12⁹⁹ CD

Keep Hope Alive

With over 800,000 units sold of their full-length debut CD, Vegas, The Crystal Method are America's #1 selling electronic music group. The Keep Hope Alive EP was originally distributed by Moonshine in 1996 but has been out of print for the last two years. The majority of Crystal Method fans have never had an opportunity to purchase the EP that got the whole thing started.

CHRISTIAN SMITH



12⁹⁹ CD

Tronic Treatment

Christian Smith is the DJ/Producer fast following on the heels of Carl Cox and Richie Hawtin as one of Techno's rising stars. Using three turntables for Tronic Treatment, Christian Smith seamlessly mixes, layers and intertwines 28 tracks (5 of which are his own) into a soulful, funky techno journey with a tech-house twist.

DJ HARRY



12⁹⁹ CD

The String Cheese Remix Project

DJ meets jam band! DJ Harry serves up a groundbreaking concept: a dance remix album comprised almost entirely of samples from worldwide jam band phenoms. The String Cheese Incident.

FUNK IT



12⁹⁹ CD

Various Artists

Stylin artists! FUNK IT! Features tracks from legendary James Brown songwriting partner Bobby Byrd, Human Body (Roger Troutman of Zapp and Roger) and Poets of Rhythm (Quannem Projects SF). Also featured are original row soul pioneers Bo Diddley, The Whitefield Bros., the Mighty Continentals and the Bus People Express.

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PIEDMONT

BY JOYCE SLATON

Like a rich relative at a poor cousin's wedding, Piedmont has always held itself apart from its neighbor Oakland. The little city, just 1.8 square miles, is surrounded on all sides by Oakland's vast sprawl. Any other tiny town similarly encroached upon would have succumbed to the lure of big-city services by now. But not Piedmont.

The city that surrounds Piedmont is a melting pot, a *mélange*; a city where soul food restaurants lie cheek by jowl with taquerias and Vietnamese sandwich shops, a city where a casual listener on a street corner may pick out conversations in Tagalog, Yoruba, Mandarin, and Portuguese, just for starters. It's a city with the vibrancy of an area that's long been poor but creative — and with the crime problems, trash, and traffic to match.

Piedmont is a world apart, a place where the streets are clean, the views are sweeping, and the reason for being there isn't the nightlife or the food. No, Piedmont will never draw tourists or thrill seekers. What Piedmont attracts are lifers. Houses in Piedmont cost an average of \$100,000 more than Oakland abodes, and anyone you ask in Piedmont can tell you why. It's tuition, plain and simple: you're paying hard cash for the chance to avail yourself of Piedmont's excellent public school system, recognized for small class sizes and fine academic records.

The schools are Piedmont's main bragging point — without them there's little to say about what's a quintessentially nice, rich little town. Green lawns shine like jewels in front of neat, neutral-colored one-family homes. The neighborhood sprawls in curvy streets winding over the East Bay hills. Kids aren't afraid to go knocking on doors in the neighborhood hawking Girl Scout cookies. Women feel free to walk at night. It's the kind of place where a kid can leave a bike out on the lawn and presume it'll still be there when he or she gets back. Try that on Adeline Avenue and see how long it lasts.



Leg room: The vast, clean pools at Piedmont Swim Club make it the Best Place to Swim Alone.

Best Place to Brush Up on Your Tennis Skills

So you're clumsy with the racket and your serve simply sucks — you won't get better without practice, and you won't practice at city courts where every space is filled and those waiting their turn watch you with amusement. Piedmont has the perfect little practice space tucked in among its serpentine streets, and even on weekends it's practically deserted. The **Piedmont Sports Field, a.k.a. Hampton Field**, a minuscule manicured slice of green just off Hampton Street, boasts two full-size tennis courts and two half-size courts with backboards so you can even practice alone. An hour will cost you \$2, and you're likely to see no one and nothing but strolling squirrels. *Hampton at Crocker, Piedmont. (510) 420-3050.*

Best Place to Swim Alone

Oakland pools are a depressing affair — overchlorinated and overpopulated. But the **Piedmont Swim Club** pools gleam with promise for the lap swimmer. They're an Olympic-size oasis where it's possible, nay, probable that you'll have a lane all to yourself, since the club has not one, not two, but *three* pools for your swimming pleasure, each of them as clean as a surgeon's fingernails. Generally the club is members-only and requires monthly dues. But every Friday it throws open its doors to nonmembers. The kiddies tend to congregate in one or two pools, leaving at least one pool open to blissful adults. And it's empty, empty, empty. *Open in the summertime until 9 p.m. during the week, 8 p.m. on weekends. 777 Magnolia, Piedmont. (510) 655-5163.*

Best French Toast Experience

Autumn Moon Café isn't a good bet when you have the hangover hungries and need coffee *now*. The place is always jammed, despite its size, and the service tends to California casual, so you can bet it'll be a good few minutes before you're seated and sated. But if you're not famished and it's warm out, breakfast at Autumn Moon can be heavenly. Wear a tank top under your jacket and sit on the porch; order a cup of coffee and your French toast, and wait patiently. About 10, maybe 20 minutes later your order will arrive: thick, fluffy slices of fresh challah bread heaped in a glorious golden pile sprinkled with cinnamon sugar and begging for a fork. Stretch out, open up, dig in; this is what a Sunday indulgence should be. *3909 Grand, Piedmont. (510) 595-3200. ♦*

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THE 27TH

After Dark

From page 103

concrete floor and unfinished walls and ceiling hint at the space's former existence as a garage or warehouse. The only incongruous element is the ornate albeit battered back bar — we bet a former owner found it in a Dumpster. In other words, this bar was made for the three P's: pool, pinball, and punk rock. And it delivers them in spades. This is the place to see real punk rock performed in its natural environment, complete with a rowdy, Pabst-swilling crowd egging the band on to even greater feats of musical mayhem. 431 Natoma, S.F. (415) 495-1863.

Best Artist-Owned Bar

Much as true freedom of the press belongs to a person who owns one, so is the unrestrained right to rock reserved for the club owner. In the midst of all the wailing and teeth gnashing about closing venues, Chicken John is the man who did something about it: he bought the Odeon bar. No longer does he have to hustle for gigs for Mongolounge, his lounge-style Devo cover band. Never again will he have to hunt for a club to host his inimitable productions, like "Porn-E-Oke," "Circus Redikulous," and other inspired concepts. No longer will he bemoan that his favorite bands aren't playing this week. Yes, the Odeon is now 100 percent Chicken John produced. True genius always finds a way. 3223 Mission, S.F. (415) 550-6994.

Best Reason to Get on a Bus with Ominous Masked Men

They meet under the cover of darkness in the Safeway parking lot on 16th Street and Potrero, shuffling their feet uncertainly and gathering in a ragged group to await their captors. The bus pulls up, the doors open, and an emaciated bewigged man in a blue dress steps out. It's Nan, the Bingo Queen from New Jersey. "All right, recruits!" he barks. "All aboard." And the Popcorn Anti-Theater bus is off again. No one, even spectacle organizers Hernan Cortez and Michael Vavricek, is exactly sure what will happen at each stop, when participants pile out of the bus and witness a bit of theater, a musical performance, or a circus act. They might be screeched at by a crack mom in a haunted house in Hunters Point, witness the backstage machinations of a grotesque



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ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

beauty pageant, or be pulled over by the San Francisco Fashion Police and berated for their lack of accessorizing. Hell, the driver could even take it into his head to drive to Tahoe. This is not your calm, tourist-friendly *Beach Blanket Babylon* sort of theater. This is more like having theater shoved in your mouth like so many marshmallows. Host Cortez says the shows, held the last Sunday and Monday of the month and always different, are "chaos based and formulated for the short-attention-span audience," with each of the performances during the hours-long roving shows held outside, rain or shine, where all kinds of urban elements can and do intrude. Now that's entertainment. (415) 826-3277.

Best House Music Weekly

You'd better get there early, and skip the open-toed sandal look. **Taboo** gets packed every Tuesday night like a motherfucker, but for good reason: for house music fiends and non-claustrophobic dancers, it's the best place to be any day of the week for that good old-fashioned garage house music. Resident DJ David Harness plays it melodic, sweet 'n' vocally, disco delightful, and back-in-the-day referential. It's a happy crowd, not a wasted one, and you can tell that most of the dancers have a handle on house music history — something that comes across when they start belting out those lyrics. Guests — like Patrick Wilson, Lamont Young, Kevin Koga, and classy out-of-towners Ted Patterson and Jojo Flores — are always on the David Harness garage-style tip. *Liquid*, 2925 16th St., S.F. (415) 289-6833.

Best Monthly House Music Party

Every third Saturday of the month **Atmosphere** promoter and resident DJ Said brings out some of the top East Coast house music talent, like Joe Claussel and Danny Krevit of NYC's Body and Soul club, Kerri Chandler, Ron Trent, and Kenny Carpenter. Here, spirits are high, people come prepared to get down, and the crowd remains very mixed. One of the most memorable Atmospheres took place earlier this year at the Justice League, when Joe Claussel took control of the decks and transformed the venue into a holy sweatbox, reminding all the dancers that house music can be more than just a feeling. Come down for a pure dose of house music soul. www.fatsouls.com.

Best Dose of 1991

Are rave years and dog years comparable? If so, we're fucked. If not, let's keep at it for a bit longer. **Come-Unity** is still going strong after 10 years, and here the vibe is still nicely crunchy, friendly, and reminiscent of those blissful early '90s. Cofounded by Malachy O'Brien, Mo, Jason Cosmik, and Simon in 1991, the monthly party (first Fridays) features a local lineup of residents Cosmik Jason, Garth, Simon, and Jëno and a solid guest bank of Jonah Sharp, Dubtribe, Mark Farina, Noel, Jim Huckin, Markie, ETI, and Traçy. *Kelly's Mission Rock*, 817 China Basin, S.F. (415) 401-8596, www.come-unity.com.

Best Breaks Mash-Up

Every Saturday night in the Lower Haight the True Intent Recordings crew brings a funky underground vibe to breakbeat lovers with resident DJs Gabe Real, Mikebee, Sea, PUSH, Ms E, and Jason Greer. At **Bottom Heavy** you can catch up on sexy 2-step, broken beat, jazzy drum 'n' bass, and whatever else the DJs feel your ass can handle. Dancers always seem cheery, and the bartenders are generous with the toxic cocktails, so expect to wake up the next day with hazy, fond memories. Recent guests included Tomas, Scott Edmonds, and MC Child. *The Top*, 424 Haight, S.F. (415) 703-0320.

Best Public Humiliation by Nuns

If getting spanked by nuns in front of a large boisterous crowd is enough to get your hosanna to the highest, then darling, you simply must mark your calendar for the first Thursday of the month, when the naughty Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence host(ess) **Resurrection Bingo** at the Metropolitan Community Church in the Castro. In the struggle to win fabulous boatloads of cash and prizes while making generous donations to local charities, the audience has a chance to sin. Shout "Bingo!" inappropriately, by "accident" or not, and you will be taken to the stage and flogged. And Lord helps you if your cell phone goes off while the balls are being pulled, as this, too, is a heavenly excuse to meet with the leather paddle. It's the stuff that Catholic school porn is made of, but tamed for a general audience. *Metropolitan Community Church*, 150 Eureka, S.F. www.thesisters.org/bingo.htm.

Continued on page 108

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SEE PAGE 157!

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AUGUST

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1 Private Party	2 The Bay Guardian Most Child Stackmob ...their last show of the summer!!!	3 Escape from New York DJ Paul Nice DJ Sale One	4 Private Party
5	6	7 Local Live Music Showcase!! Shady Lady J Dogs Pandaemonium	8 Wiggle ...a lot of deep house grooves, spoken word, and live songs	9 The Sofa Kings	10 Brass Monkey Brass Band Secession ...and DJ Holden Pabon	11 I SEEN ELVIS
12 fiction	13	14 Local Live Music Showcase!! Steve Kirk Pop Trio Petalosed Fishpool	15 TBA	16 Re-Mix	17 Nadine's WILD WEEKEND!!! Persephone's Bee Guttermint 9 UTO FUSE TBA	18 Buddhalokouski! Rubberside Down Picnic The Slow Poisoners
19	20	21 Evening of Comedy A.D. Comic RHYTHM Jon Berman Brian Mulvaney JEFF KACHUCKS ...and more! ...and more! ...and more!	22 TBA	23 TBA	24 Karin Conn presents funk twist	25 Mystery Machine Productions presents... TBA
26 fiction	27	28 Local Live Music Showcase!! B-Phase Universal Mind Foolz Gold	29 The largest of raves ...and more!	30 Re-Mix Tainted Love	31 ...and more!	Boomshtanka Sheomya

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STEVE TURRE QUARTET August 8 - August 12	ELVIN JONES JAZZ MACHINE September 25 - September 30	WALTER SAVAGE December 3
12TH ANNUAL EDDIE MOORE JAZZ FESTIVAL PRESENTED BY JAZZ IN FLIGHT August 13 - August 19	WILLEM BREUKER KOLLEKTIEF October 1	MIMI FOX December 4
JESSICA JONES August 20	TDOTS THIELEMANS WITH OSCAR CASTRO-NEVES & KENNY WERNER October 2 - October 7	ABDULLAH IBRAHIM December 6 - December 9
RAY BROWN TRIO WITH NICHOLAS PAYTON August 21 - August 26	SCOTT AMENDOLA BANO October 8	PONGA December 10
J. STEINKOLER QUARTET August 27	MARIAN MCPARTLAND October 9 - October 14	DAVID SANCHEZ December 11 - December 16
OSCAR PETERSON QUARTET August 28 - September 2	DAVE CREAMER October 15	MARK HUMMEL'S 11TH ANNUAL BLUES HARMONICA BLOWOUT January 11 - January 12
AVISHAI COHEN & THE INTERNATIONAL VAMP BAND September 3	AHMAD JAMAL October 16 - October 21	BTH ANNUAL MCCOY TYNER TWO-WEEK RESIDENCY! WEEK 1: MCCOY TYNER WITH KENNY GARRETT, GEORGE MRAZ, AL FOSTER January 22 - January 27 WEEK 2: MCCOY TYNER WITH RON CARTER & HARVEY MASON January 29 - February 3
JENNA MAMMINA September 4	DAVE WECKL BAND October 23 - October 24	CLAIROEE February 4
DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER September 5 - September 9	HIRDSHIMA October 25 - October 28	NICHOLAS PAYTON February 5 - February 10
JUANITA ULLOA September 10	SAI GHOSE TRIO November 5	
JANE BUNNETT & SPIRITS OF HAVANA September 11 - September 12	CEDAR WALTON TRIO WITH JACKIE MCLEAN November 6 - November 11	
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BEST OF THE BAY THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

After Dark

From page 107

Best 2-Step/U.K. Garage Night

Suffice it to say that hepcats in San Francisco move fast. Last June, **Step**, the first local weekly 2-step party, opened to a welcoming crowd, and one year later it's still pumping every Friday with residents John Paul (JP), Dom Some, Enzyme, and MC Audio Angel. The dance floor is hidden in the back room, with a low ceiling and not much light — perfect for the underground set but less appealing for upscale champagne sippers, and that's just fine. Rotating guests bring more juicy breakbeat joy with Monty Luke, Science, Scott Edmonds, the Megatron, PUSH, Mike Bee, Gabe Real, DJ Gray, and Foxxee, plus out-of-towners like Caspar (Chicago) and Markman (L.A.). Come down for a cheap boogie (always five bucks), funky music, and an unpretentious crowd. *An Sabin, 1176 Sutter, S.F. www.forward-thought.com.*

Best Place to Avoid Yuppies on E

At **Emoto** you'll discover some of the newest, least conventional forms of dance music, a low-key, well-informed crowd, and resident DJs Jonah Sharp (Reflective Records), Tomas (Umoja Sound System, *XLR8R*), and Andrew Jervis (Ubiquity Records). The club takes place the first Saturday of the month, and all styles of left-field music are featured, including broken beat (nu jazz), abstract house, stony downtempo, and anything else the DJs find suitable. Out-of-town guests, like Reclouse (Planet E) and Alexkid (F-Communications), are always top-notch. *26 Mix, 3024 Mission, S.F. www.26mix.com.*

Best Drum 'n' Bass Night

Hosted by Phunkateck producer Juju, **Phuturo** (Tuesdays) is a great place to get worked up to drum 'n' bass while sipping on gin and juice and hanging with the S.F. junglist cognoscenti. Come check out some of Juju's newest tracks and those of his guests, like Noel, UFO!, Total Science, Klute, DJ Lee, Calibre, Marcus Intalex, Source Direct, Stakka and Skynet, and Dara. Don't come around if you're looking for something smooth, jazzy, and cute — this is real drum 'n' bass for the hardcore lovers. *The Top, 424 Haight, S.F. (415) 505-7929.*

Best Techno Party

Justi (*XLR8R*) and Eli Herr throw **Maze**, a (sometimes) monthly techno event, and for all intents and purposes, it's probably San Francisco's largest techno gathering. The party floats around to different venues, but each party has an urban, unconventional crowd, people who are really and truly there for the music. Along with Justi, Henrick, and Andre Lucero, DJs have included the amazing Layo and Bushwacka, Kenny Larkin, and DJ Rolando of Underground Resistance. *Keep on the lookout for flyers, go to www.xlr8r.com, or call (415) 664-8166.*

Best Hip-Hop Weekly

Some clubs are reminiscent of Cheers; they're the places you go to catch up with old friends and check out musicians you've followed over the years. For San Francisco's tightly knit hip-hop community, Chris Kahuna, a.k.a. Mr. Brown, offers **Elephunk** as a home base of sorts. For neophytes, this long-running Wednesday-night social is a great way to learn about the many local artists — DJs Coop D'Ville and Jahyzer and groups like Felonious — who may not get the attention they deserve but nevertheless keep the local rap scene afloat. *Rasselas, 2801 California, S.F. (415) 567-5010.*

Best Place to Keep It Real and Jiggy at the Same Time

True Skool attracts a strange crowd. On Friday nights at Storyville you'll find lasses in butt-hugging tight pants chopping it up with backpack-clad B-girls, twentysomethings in baggy jeans being muscled aside by jocks buttoned down in Sean John outfits, and hip-hop zealots standing near the middle of the upstairs floor — which has been designated as "the stage" — telling everyone to quiet down. Of course, you can't, because you're laughing, drunkenly shouting, and knocking over someone to talk to someone else. Where else can you find an economically and racially diverse crowd cheering on the Last Poets and 75 Degrees or vigorously shaking their asses to old-school classics and pop-rap hits spun by resident DJs Clockwork, Ren the Vinyl Archaeologist, Coop D'Ville, and Jahyzer, all on a weekly basis? The True Skool crowd knows how to get down and have fun, and it knows what good hip-hop music is, too. *Storyville, 1751 Fulton, S.F. (415) 441-1751.*

Continued on page 112

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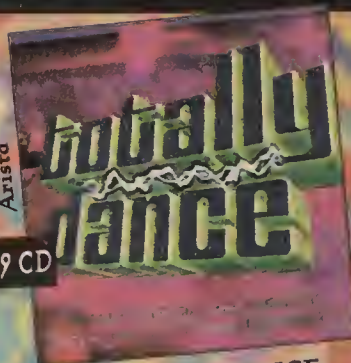


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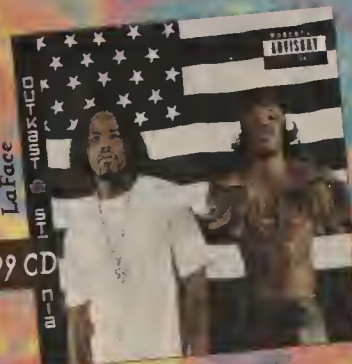
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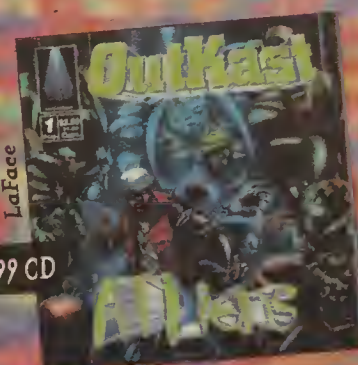
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THE BAY GUARDIAN

THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

After Dark

From page 108

Best Hip-Hop Monthly

Ever since it began in January of this year, **Sisterz of the Underground** has drawn a wildly enthusiastic, sold-out crowd. This monthly all-female hip-hop showcase proffers an evening of performances from residents — the Bay Area B-girls, MCs Inchant and Tenashus, and DJs Jbean, Celski, Deeandroid — and guests like L.A.'s feline scientist Medusa. Judging from the response they all earn, both men and women are anxious to see the ladies represent onstage. (415) 414-3736.

Best Club to Hear the Future

Not only will you hear plenty of synthesizers at **Synth**, you'll also hear plenty of weird sounds, both minimalist and ornate, that people have struggled to categorize — are they intelligent dance music? are they techno? — since they exploded in popularity sometime last year. Thankfully, those cutting-edge kids at Synth help keep your head out of the clouds and your eyes in front of you, since you'll need all of your senses to keep from getting knocked down by people who do the spastic, herky-jerky dance anytime they hear something remotely electronic sounding. Of course, with guests like Scanner and Adult to move to, you may be one of them. *Blind Tiger*, 787 Broadway, S.F. For more information call (415) 788-4020.

Best Filmgoing Bargain

With first-run film admission poised to break the \$10 barrier, filmgoing is becoming an increasingly expensive proposition. However, there is a 35mm alternative to the video store for the budget-minded movie fan. San Francisco's **Balboa Theater** only charges \$7 for a double feature (free on your birthday!) of second-run films. For less than the price of a pint of beer per film, you can see two movies the way they were made to be seen — before they hit the video stores. And with the Balboa starting to program more special events (it hosted the San Francisco premiere of the Billy Nayer Show's *American Astronaut*), there are even more reasons to make the trip out to the Avenues. 38th Ave. and Balboa, S.F. (415) 221-8184. ❖



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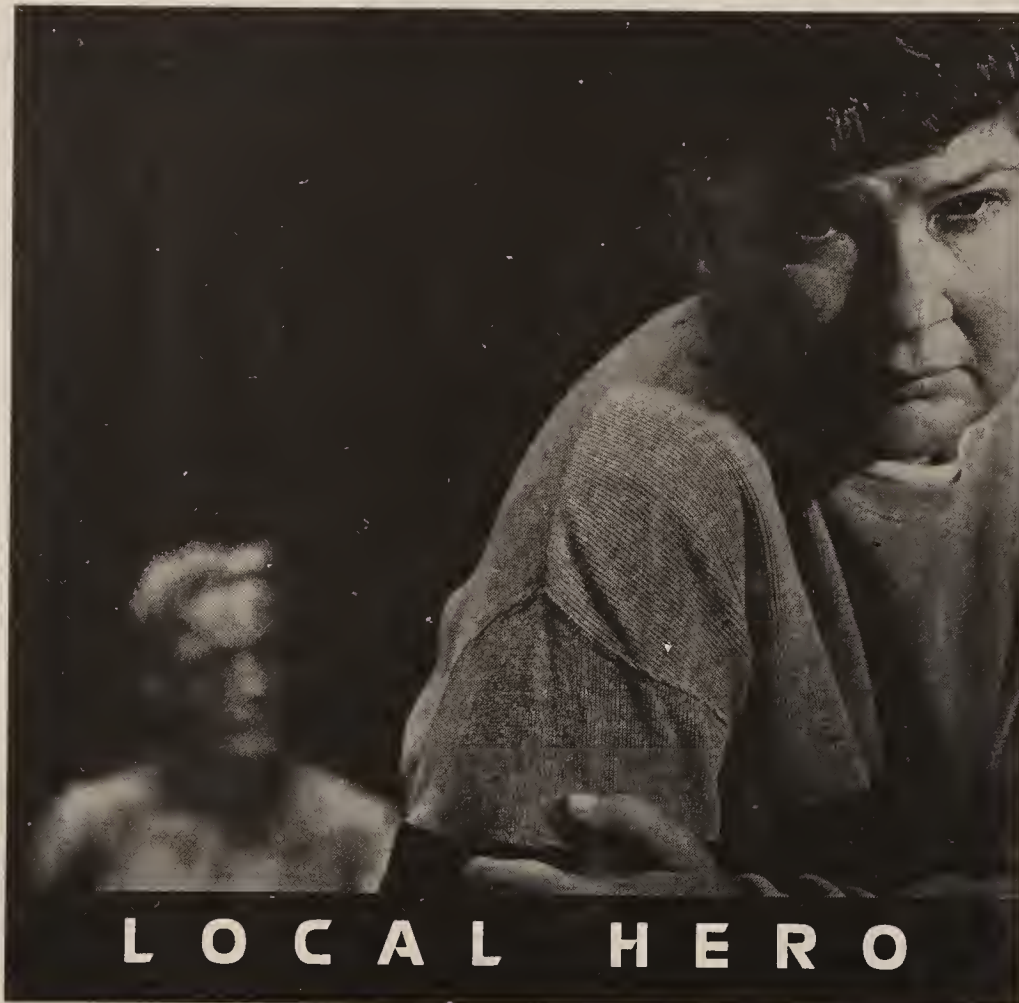


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ROBERT HAALAND

BY GABRIEL ROTH



GUARDIAN PHOTO BY SAUL BROMBERGER AND SANDRA HOOVER PHOTOGRAPHY

LOCAL HERO

It's hard to imagine how Robert Haaland could have stayed out of politics.

Haaland grew up in Austin, Minn., a town dominated by giant food conglomerate Hormel, in a family that was split down the middle by labor strife: his uncle was a top executive in the company, while his grandfather stayed loyal to the rank-and-file workers.

What's more, he was born a woman, although that wasn't how he saw himself. "People would say, 'Excuse me, ma'am,' and I wouldn't know they were talking to me," he says. As a teenager in southern California he lived as a lesbian, a choice that got him thrown out of his father's house when he was 18. It's no surprise that, as he puts it, "I have a thing for underdogs."

After working a string of blue-collar jobs, moving to San Francisco's Castro district, earning a law degree at Hastings, and switching to life as a man, Haaland took a job as a staff aide at City Hall. He describes that period as "a crash course in machine politics. I witnessed firsthand how powerful the landlord lobby was, especially with Willie Brown."

Disillusioned, he found it a relief to move outside local government and pursue his real passion: community organizing. From that point on he has been at the center of the resurgence of San Francisco's progressive movement.

Working with the San Francisco Tenants Union, he led the fights to block the landlord-friendly Proposition E and then to pass the anti-eviction Proposition G. With

two electoral successes under his belt, Haaland started thinking about the 1999 mayor's race.

Fearful of another four years of Brown and unimpressed by the mayor's leading challenger, political consultant Clint Reilly, Haaland and a couple of friends organized a campaign to draft Board of Supervisors president Tom Ammiano into the race. Standing on street corners collecting petition signatures, Haaland and a few other diehards changed the course of local politics.

Ammiano declined to enter the race until less than three weeks before the election, when he agreed to put himself forward as a write-in candidate. The progressive community consolidated around the hastily assembled campaign. Haaland describes the sleepless days and nights that followed as "a magical period. It was gut-wrenching to see how much people wanted to make a difference."

In one sense the electoral campaign was an astonishing success: In less than three weeks, volunteers convinced 45,000 people to write Ammiano's name on their ballot, propelling the candidate into a runoff with Brown. In another sense it was a brutal defeat, with Brown finishing first in the runoff by a comfortable margin.

But the Ammiano insurgency's real triumph wasn't the vote count; it was the hundreds of previously nonpolitical San Franciscans who volunteered, the connections formed between activists in different fields and different parts of town, the sense of collective purpose breathed into a demoralized and disorganized left. Haaland, whose natural friendliness and easygoing manner are perhaps

his greatest weapons as an organizer, deserves as much credit as anyone for turning the campaign from a few protesters into a significant political force.

The first concrete payoff would come in the following year's supervisorial elections. Haaland spearheaded the campaign of fellow tenant advocate Chris Daly, who ran a determinedly grassroots campaign in District Six. ("The first time I met him was during the homeless sweeps in Golden Gate Park," Haaland says. "He was chasing this cop with a video camera. I liked him immediately.") Daly won by a landslide — and joined five other progressive newcomers whose campaigns had tapped into the energy of the Ammiano write-in bid.

That board has already made strides for causes close to Haaland's heart, passing antigentrification land-use controls and restrictions on tenancies-in-common. "But there's a lot more to do," Haaland says — and he's talking less about legislation than about building a movement. "Coalitions were formed during the election that need to be nurtured."

Haaland — working with low-income tenants, with the queer community, with nonprofit service providers, with the Mission District-based antidisplacement movement, and with just about everyone else involved in left-wing politics in San Francisco — will do much of the nurturing. Fighting to make the world better, to bring people together, to upset the powers that be, suits him: he's the rare full-time activist who radiates happiness. "It's our ability to work collectively that makes us powerful," he says. "And it's thrilling. It's totally exciting to see." ♦

Body & Soul

THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY GUARDIAN

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We're still the best

By Cara Bruce

When I first moved to San Francisco, I had no idea I would end up writing porn. It seems like it should have been the other way around. Like I should have moved here to establish my "career" — it sounds so much better saying that I followed the gleaming Golden Gate to be an erotica writer.

The truth is I moved here because I was traveling around the country and ran out of money. After weeks of sleeping in my car and in rest areas (guess what — cops don't really take that "rest area" thing literally), San Francisco seemed welcoming. And it was. San Francisco is one of the only places on earth that actually is welcoming to everyone. Queer, bisexual, straight, transgender, or all/none of the above — there is something here for everyone.

In my opinion, San Francisco is simply the best place for love and sex. It has a distinctly European feel, which makes it totally romantic, and it's hands down the sex capitol of the United States. San Francisco is much more than a city; it's an icon. And sexuality is a major part of that icon.

From the wild days of the Barbary Coast, when Maiden Lane housed whores instead of hair salons, to the present, with rainbows everywhere symbolizing diversity and freedom, it's been a mecca for queers, radicals, and perverts everywhere. After all, San Francisco birthed the term "sex-positive," a philosophy of accepting people for who they are, what they are, and what they want to do. It started here and has spread throughout the country to become a part of our nation's sexy vernacular.

We are leaders in acceptance, both linguistically and politically. With the recent health policy change giving coverage to all city employees for gender reassignment surgery and our domestic-partnership and antidiscrimination laws, San Francisco has continued to pave new ground for sexual and identity acceptance and freedom.

These days, though, this sentiment feels like it has diminished somewhat. As a city, we have lost a lot of our radical, aggressive, fighting spirit — partly due to the wave of stock-hungry dot-com kids, people who came here for large salaries and not because they had something to fight for (and of course this isn't true of all of them). This only makes our stand for sexual and personal freedom more important.

The rest of the world looks to us to provide a good example. And the identity-related decisions that are made here are felt everywhere. I was recently entertaining a friend from Seattle. We were talking about the new transgender policy, and he told me that Microsoft was worried about having to put a third bathroom in all of its offices for transgender people who were in the middle of reassignment. (What's the matter with unisex bathrooms? Haven't they ever seen *Ally McBeal*?) The conversation turned to other sex-related activities in San

Francisco. My friend wanted to know how much the massage parlors charged and what they would do for him. He also wanted to go to strip clubs and see a drag show.

"Why?" I asked him, thinking that Seattle should have its fair share of massage parlors and strip clubs. It can't be all heroin and lattes. I mean, if Microsoft is worried about urinals and transgenders, then Seattle should at least have some whores.

"I should check out that stuff since I'm in San Francisco," he explained. "This is the place to find explicit, kinky sex. What else would I do here as a tourist?"

He was right. Sex is a major tourist attraction in San Francisco. People come from all over to work in, and to reap the rewards of, the sex business. This is one city where sex actually provides "respectable" jobs for a large portion of its residents — mainly because people here see them as respectable.

I work at Good Vibrations, where a diverse workplace is one of our missions. About 120 femmes, butch dykes, queer men, MTFs (male-to-female), FTMs (female-to-male), bisexuals, and straight men and women work happily together to bring people orgasms. It's a mini-example of the San Francisco workforce at large, aside from the orgasm part. I bet that almost everyone in the city has at least one queer and one kinky coworker. I asked my friend and coworker, writer Violet Blue, if she would make that bet with me. She laughed and said, "No way." So I asked her what she thought of sex and love in San Francisco.

"San Francisco is the epicenter for sex and sex culture in the U.S.," she said. "Because of that, it's the best place in the world to meet people, fall in love, and have mind-blowing sex. Nowhere else can you find people of all genders who might be willing to try whatever fantasy you have — and if not, then they probably know where you can take a class on it. People come here for that, and they're much more open, intelligent, and refined about sex because of it."

Her answer was so inspiring that I decided to take a really long lunch and go ask people on the street what they thought of when I said the magic words "sex, love, and San Francisco." After all, Violet and I work in the sex biz, and the makeup of the city has changed. Sure, people still come here to find themselves and to escape antigay or anti-kinky prejudices, but within the past few years many more people have come here for an entirely different reason: money. I was curious to see what the new mix of San Franciscans thought about their city in regards to sex and love.

The top answers I got were queer people, Pride, the dyke march, and sex work. (Actually, the number-one answer was an annoyed "I don't know.") But below are some of the more interesting things people thought about sex in their city:

"That '60s hippie thing."

"Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*."

"Soft porn, like soap operas."

"You mean besides sex clubs? Fetish clubs!"

"It's too hard to pick in San Francisco. Free love, everything, it all started here."

"A place you come to find your sexual identity. Then once you find it, you reflect it back as part of San Francisco. Everyone who comes here to explore themselves makes San Francisco what it is."

"Historical yet cultural sex — the Mitchell Brothers, the golden era of porn, the Barbary Coast ... sex is a huge part of our culture of tourism."

One of the sweetest answers I got was from a homeless guy on Howard Street. He looked up at me, gave me a toothless grin, and said, "Unforgettable memories."

It seemed to me that many of our residents thought of the glory days of San Francisco. We seem to cherish our sexual roots. That's fine and dandy, but it's also a bit sad. Have we not done anything interesting lately? No one seemed to think of our recent political achievements. Sure, Pride and queers are a continuing, and important, part of the sexual scene of San Francisco, but according to the feedback I got, we as a city have not recently created any strong sex-related memories.

I know a lot of people who think that San Francisco has lost its edge, that it's become overrun with yuppies drinking \$5 coffees, driving oversize vehicles, and buying really expensive S-M equipment to hang in their parlors as decorations. And yes, the dot-com thing did severely influence our fair city. And I do wish our rents would drop so my struggling artist friends could quit their jobs and go back to what they do best.

But despite the population changes that have occurred and the resulting semi-apathetic political climate, we are still head and shoulders above the rest of the country when it comes to sexual and identity activism and fun. Where else can you see a troupe of gender-bending Catholic schoolgirls and a gigantic Hitachi Magic Wand floating down Market Street in the nation's best celebration of sexual diversity? What other city gives out awards for Best Bisexual Bar and Best Place to Rub Sweaty Bodies? Where else can you find not one but maybe even three sex parties on a given night? And where else can a Muni driver become his correct gender without going into life-long debt because of it?

Not in Tulsa. Or Louisville. Or Dallas. Only in San Francisco. To me, those words still mean something. I'm proud to tell people I'm from San Francisco. And when they look at me with raised eyebrows, wondering just what sort of kink I'm into, I smile sweetly and nod my head, to let them know that yes, all of their worst fears are true.

Cara Bruce writes smut in San Francisco.

SEX AND ROMANCE

GUARDIAN PHOTOGRAPHS BY NATASHIA FUKSMAN AND LORI SPEARS



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Best Place to Make Out While Watching a Movie

Through the dim light of the **Castro Theatre**, surrounded by the age-old grandeur of its chandeliers and murals, in the dark, often-empty balcony above the crowd of film-watching patrons, we have found the best movie make-out spot in San Francisco. It's calm, warm, and safe up there — a great place to move in for the kill on a first date or reignite the flame with an old love while holding hands, cuddling, and pretending to watch the film we've just paid to see. The vaulted ceilings remind us of church — a place where we always wished we could make out. The flashing lights of the projector make us feel like we're at a laser light show, an event during which we spent many a make-out moment in high school. And the live organ that plays before the movie recalls the ballpark, another one of our favorite all-American make-out spots. What could be better than you and your baby playing a little tonsil hockey with a large soda in one hand and a bag of popcorn in the other while the on-screen couple share a moment of their own? 429 *Castro*, S.F. (415) 621-6120.

Best Place to Groove to Vintage Acid Porn

When famed local DJ Neel N. Kizmiaz walks through the doors of **Pow!** on **Thursday nights**, you know something strange and incredibly funky is about to take place. Befeathered, befurred, and bespangled as an 1898 carnival, the strawberry blond shimmies his way past the bar and toward the turntables. Heads turn and onlookers hold their collective breath as he places his record bags on the stand. The longhaired funk master then places needles on those very records, and the music machine spits out a groove rarer than sushi. The people begin to dance. Pull focus to the TV behind the DJ, where colors and lights fly across the screen and then dissipate, slowly. As they clear, you can just make out a curvy female form dancing wildly to the sound of some distant soundtrack, completely and totally naked. More forms, male and female, emerge — some making out, some making love, smoking grass, eating acid-dosed sugar cubes, drinking cocktails, or go-going in a fleshy chorus line that seems to be in time to Kizmiaz's musical selections, in a psychedelic-freakout orgy sure to make you blush. Don't get too engrossed, though, 'cause you've got to pull it together and order a specialty drink from the bartender, whom you are likely to find wrapped up in the bar's mascot snake. Whew. 101 *Sixth St.*, S.F. (415) 278-0940.

Best Place to Take Your Twink Date

The Castro's best-kept secret isn't a muscle-formula shop or a rainbow-key chain kiosk. Instead, it's a wonderfully goofy museum aimed at teaching kids and adults about nature, wildlife, and all that crud you hated when you were younger. Unlike most of the Castro, the **Randall Museum** remembers the importance of camp and playfulness. Where else can you see models of pink flamingos in a display called "Inviting Wildlife into Our City"? Or an exhibit on composting that urges you to "let worms eat your garbage!" The museum has a permanent collection of 100 animals that can't fend for themselves in the wild because of injuries. So if you want to impress that young hot stud you just met, don't take him to Daddy's — take him to the place that'll help him get in touch with the wild kingdom in a deliciously silly way. 199 *Museum Way*, S.F. (415) 554-9600.

Best Romantic Trip to Venice in Oakland

There are lots of romantic things to do in Oakland but few as classically romantic as riding in a gondola complete with hunky boatman. Angelino and April of **Gondola Servizio** have imported an authentic Venetian gondola to the Bay Area and offer cruises around Lake Merritt. You can choose the \$55 Marco Polo cruise, the \$65 Casanova package, or the \$225 Promessi Sposi (wedding) gala. The gondoliers wear straw hats and striped shirts and look suitably hunky, judging from the pictures on the company Web site. (The site helpfully notes the marital status of each gondolier, so you know it's OK to hit on David and Scozese but not Angelino.) All cruises include a serenade by the guitar-playing gondolier, glassware, and blankets. 568 *Bellevue, Oakl.* (510) 663-6603.

Best Sexual-Border Assault

San Francisco is known as a haven for sexual minorities, but too often people break into exclusive little groups once they get here — lesbians in one spot, trannies in another, gay men in yet another, etc. But some ambitious locals are bucking this trend, reminding people that it's a lot more fun — and a lot more enlightening — to mix things up. Promoted in local magazines such as *Black Sheets* and *Anything That Moves* and written about by authors like Carol Queen, **pansexuality** is an active effort to avoid separatism and isolation. Its proponents don't say that you have to desire everyone, just that things are more interesting when you are tolerant and open to new possibilities. Numerous private parties have picked up the ball, purposefully creating

mixed-gender, mixed-orientation sexual spaces. It's a terrific movement and a great reminder that we all have a lot to learn from one another.

Best Advertisement for San Francisco

The erotic films **SIR Video's** Shar Rednour and Jacki Strano produce, from *Bend Over Boyfriend* to *Sugar High Glitter City*, scream out "made in San Francisco." Crafted with care and a sense of fun, their movies reflect the sex-positive, fun-loving sensibilities of the city. They star the same punky beauties you see hanging out at the Lexington and Zeitgeist and have none of the "ewwww" factor of mainstream porn. With their emphasis on regular people and innovative, hot sex, these films serve as delicious video postcards for our town. After all, who *wouldn't* want to come and play with these locals? www.sirvideo.com.

Best Place for a Culinary Seduction

For a full-moon treat, take your lover or potential lover to the aphrodisiac dinner at **Millennium**. Scientifically or pseudoscientifically proven to induce lust, the meal includes aphrodisiac foods like mushrooms, artichokes, and beets. It's a four-course feast complete with a Chinese herbal love potion for two. Some recent dishes have included morel mushrooms au gratin and bourbon-smoked tempeh. Chef Eric Tucker says that they've had threesomes and foursomes come for the aphrodisiac night but that it's mostly couples. Food and love are inextricably intertwined, so maybe it's time to seduce your love muffin with some tasty morsels. 246 *McAllister, S.F.* (415) 487-9800.

Best Place to Pick Up a Rocker Date for Triple Espresso and Ms. Pac-Man

We've sat in **Gaylord's Caffe Espresso** many times, sipping espresso lavished with whipped cream and sprinkles, watching the cuties come in. On those hot days, some of the tousled hotties need that hard-core coffee fix. You can watch them saunter to the counter, slowly wipe the sweat from their brow, and order a 20-ounce iced coffee with coffee ice cubes (under \$2). Not only is this good eye candy, it's also good for the environment. The independently owned establishment is switching to Equal Exchange coffee beans; Equal Exchange is the nice organic company that supports small, independent farmers. Back to the hipster rockers: after ordering from the friendly counter people, they plunk themselves down in front of the 25¢ Ms. Pac-Man and play to their hearts' content. Many after-

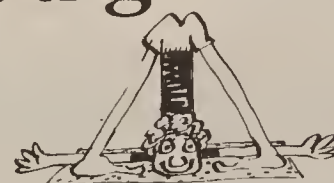
Continued on page 121

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RUTH WILSON GILMORE

BY A.C. THOMPSON



GIARDIAN PHOTO BY SAUL BROMBERGER AND SANDRA HOOVER PHOTOGRAPHY

LOCAL HERO

Ruth Wilson Gilmore laughs a lot. Warm giggles seem to burble out of her every three minutes. That's probably a good thing, given Gilmore's field of study.

Gilmore, a professor of human geography at UC Berkeley, spends her days trying to make sense of our apocalyptic, dehumanizing prison-building boom. Drawing from economics, sociology, and anthropology, she asks the tough questions: Why do Americans, in comparison to people in other countries, commit so many heinous crimes? How do we make distinctions between crime and capitalism? And why do we punish transgressors so harshly?

For the 51-year-old Gilmore, the subject is personal.

"One of my cousins, someone I was really close to, was a member of the Black Panther party, and he was one of the many people [killed by the FBI's COINTELPRO scheme]," she says. "That made me hyper-conscious about criminalization and prison."

"In the last 10 years or so it became clear to me

that this was really the front to work on, because it seems to me that all of the contradictions in America can be understood if you really look closely at prisons. The state is constantly reviving the idea of the enemy within and saying, 'So what we're going to do is build a prison and make you safe.'"

Gilmore isn't some detached, ivory-tower bookworm. When she's not teaching or poring over archaic texts, Gilmore is out in the trenches, actively fighting the cops-and-jails juggernaut with an array of grassroots groups. She seems to be at every demonstration, every meeting, every conference, every legislative hearing. In what may be the movement's most tangible victory to date, Gilmore and comrades put together a lawsuit to halt a proposed penitentiary in the Central Valley town of Delano.

"Most left academics have little contact with [social change] movements," says Christian Parenti, author of *Lockdown America* and a teacher at New College of California. "Ruthie is one of very few academics who engage in real-world struggles."

Besides her seemingly relentless energy, Gilmore brings intellectual rigor to the front lines — like Foucault, she effortlessly connects ancient torture techniques to modern cruelties.

There are signs that our love affair with prisons and punishment may be waning. The agenda-setting *New York Times* has come out against both capital punishment and New York State's draconian Rockefeller drug laws. George Ryan, the Republican governor of Illinois, ordered a moratorium on executions in that state — and won universal praise for it. Hollywood openly attacked the drug war with *Traffic*.

But simply cataloging the defects of the criminal justice apparatus — bad laws, bad courts, bad prison conditions — isn't good enough for Gilmore. Her vision is bigger. She wants to push the discourse a step further. She wants us to "think about how to reorganize society so we can live with each other. There's something fundamentally wrong with a society in which we're more likely to murder each other than any industrial society." ♦

THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY

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Sittin' in a tree: Panoramic views and lush palm trees provide ample distraction for planting that seminal smooch on the Fairmont Hotel's garden balcony, the Best Place for a First Kiss.

Sex and Romance

From page 119

noons can be lost this way. 4150 Piedmont, Oakl. (510) 658-2877.

Best Place for a First Kiss

Now that the Fairmont Hotel's \$85 million renovation is complete and construction barriers no longer fill the halls, take your prospective sweet nookums for a happy hour drink at the Tonga Room, where the indoor thunderstorms are just cheesy enough to be romantic in a *Blue Hawaii* kind of way. Casually mention that Tony Bennett first performed "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" at the Fairmont. Follow that up with a stroll upstairs for a little bit of the old sunset watching from the **Fairmont's garden balcony** with a glass or two of some of the city's best mai tais (or at least some of the most expensive, but worth every penny for the results they produce). As you look out over the railing at the sweeping views of Babylon by the Bay, you'll understand why the hotel plays host to U.S. presidents and rock stars alike: Bettys go nutty for the Fairmont. If you can't score here, you're hopeless. And we really mean that. 950 Mason, S.F. (415) 772-5000.

Best Place to Get Your First Spanking as an Adult

So you've been thinking about it, and you know, it doesn't seem so bad, and maybe you'd kind of like it, what with the spanking and the pain that doesn't really hurt all that much, and it just might turn you on, but where the hell are you going to find out if you'd actually like such a thing, and besides, who would you get to do it? Step back and let the professionals take over. At the **Folsom Street Fair**, by far the most raucous public event in a raucous place, our fair city's streets are lined

with booths designed specifically to give you a good spanking, naughty girl. So on Sunday, Sept. 30, head down to Folsom Street between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. to get your first taste of the sweet, sweet lash. Along with spanking booths, there are innumerable street vendors, bands, and legions of the city's bushiest bears decked out in their finest leather. Bring a friend, or make one there. *Folsom between 7th and 12th Streets, S.F.*

Best Update on the Bondage-a-Go-Go Theme

When adult dance club Bondage-a-Go-Go launched in 1995 it quickly became the hot gathering spot for the sex-worker crowd, hosting performances and demonstrations by local dommes and willing spec-ticipants. But after six years B-A-G-G has been invaded by bridge-and-tunnel suburbanites hoping to leer at some naughty bits. The real hip kids have already found **Bound**, the private fetish play party-dance club held monthly in a secret San Francisco location. Every month the parties feature fetish fashion shows, Goth music, and a BDSM dungeon with specially modified furniture for those wishing to play. But the real selling point is the crowd: überhip, young, kinky, luscious, and tasty, all wrapped up in latex, leather, and PVC like a future sex fantasy come to life under the disco ball. Club owner Patricia controls the crowd by requiring that people become members to attend, which is fairly easily attained by submitting an online RSVP. Bound bouncers check the clueless at the door and demand they either don S-M gear (decorative rope work is available) or hit the road. Gawkers inside the club are also encouraged to clear off, effectively separating the pervy chaff from the wheat that makes this club such a nutritive jolt for the lifestyle player or the truly open-minded curious adventurer. *For information*

on how to join, go to the Bound Web site, at www.sfgoth.com/clubs/bound.

Best Place to Pick Up Rope Tricks

Let the newbies be satisfied with handcuffing their slaves or placing them in leather restraints — the true bondage artist knows that the only way to exhibit years of painstakingly learned S-M skill is rope bondage, the prettier and more functional the better. That's where **Two Knotty Boys** come in, the foxy male duo who've been teaching expert rope tricks to some of the area's most noted dommes and daddies as well as introducing newer players to the thrill of a well-wrapped rope. The boys hold regular classes at Stormy Leather and Castlebar and do demonstrations at clubs like Bondage-a-Go-Go and Bound. Introducing eager students to the delight of rope tricks for CBT (if you don't know, don't ask), safe autoerotic bondage, rope bar spreaders, tortoise shells, and the hogtie is tough work to be sure, but somebody has to do it. (510) 433-7493, www.knottyboys.com.

Best Prelude to Oral Sex for Women

The electric thrill of oral genital lovin' is just plain better without all that hair down there. You can yammer on all you like about the virtues of a like-God-made-it body, but the minute you get a little head on a freshly shaved or waxed sensitive body part we're betting you'll be silenced. Of course, any method of removing the hair is draconian. Depilatories don't work well and sting, shaving introduces the potential of shaving off more than just hair, and waxing — well, let's just say that those who experienced the Epilady in the '80s can tell you something about the joys of having hairs ripped out by the roots one by one. But if you're not too hairy, or you have a high

Continued on page 122

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Sex and Romance

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tolerance for pain, you may appreciate the rewards of what's known in the beauty biz as "the Brazilian." The Brazilian is something like a pubic going-out-of-business sale: everything must go! "Even the backside," as Brigitta, owner of **Skin City** puts it. She says she personally does four to five Brazilians a day, leaving a small landing-pad strip of hair if desired. Brigitta gives the gentlest Brazilian we've found, though that's not saying much. The 30- to 40-minute, \$35 to \$40 procedure still hurts like hell — but a kiss might make it better when you're done. 323 Divisadero, S.F. (415) 255-3777.

Best Place to Pick Up a Slightly Used Flogger

Like wedding gowns and handguns, sex toys and fetish wear are often used only slightly by their original owner. Many an eager perv has gotten overexcited at a fetish store and bought the wrong pair of spike heels, an inappropriate leash-and-collar set, a flogger without the proper heft. The faulty purchase then sits in the closet for years, subject to the too-expensive-to-trash, too-freaky-to-use conundrum. If the owner of said purchase is in the know, however, he or she can unload the unwanted bit of gear and pick up something new at **Lady Thorn's Bizarre Flea**, the 17-year-old, triannual sex toy and fetish gear flea market held in the Women's Building in San Francisco. Sex toys — dildos, vibrators, ball gags, nipple clamps, face masks, and the like — are on sale for a fraction of their original price, and the bargains to be found for instruments of torture such as floggers, canes, and crops are simply astounding. Local kinky craftspeople also bring new pieces to display and sell to shoppers, often at prices more reasonable than they will be when the same articles appear at Stormy Leather or Good Vibrations. 3543 18th St., S.F. (415) 753-0703.

Best Wedding Shopping for Big Girls

Truthfully, the Bay Area is a pretty positive place for supersize girls to shop. Fancy department stores offer "women's" sections, little boutiques cater to large sizes, and if all else fails those salesgirls at Lane Bryant are terrific cheerleaders. But when the bountiful bride-to-be goes shopping for wedding attire, few stores are ready for her. Even down-market stores tend to offer dresses only up to a size 16, and the most exclusive stores have only size 8 try-on samples. What, was there some law passed that only skinny women could marry? The ample need look no further than the **Wedding**

Gown Superstore in

Fremont to answer that question. The Superstore offers more than 100 size 18s and carries try-on dresses for brides and bridesmaids that range up to size 28. Bigger than that? If the Superstore can't order you a dress, it'll have its seamstress enlarge one for you. "Most stores can order large sizes but don't have them to try on — and this is something you want to try on," says manager Emily Haney, who says she's a large woman herself and thus sensitive to size issues. "And a lot of dresses for larger women tend to be big, heavily beaded cover-me-up dresses. Just because the dress people don't want to see me in a form-fitting sleeveless dress doesn't mean my husband doesn't want to!" Dresses run from about \$399 to \$2,400 and can be bought on layaway. 40480 Albrae, Fremont. (510) 440-9333.

Best Place to Ditch Your Date

The night is bitter, the stars have lost their glitter ... and you're entranced by the Tin Pan songs that Ron Dibble cranks out five days a week at the **Alley**. A Lake Merritt piano-bar dive that's been a Bay Area establishment for more than half a century, the Alley draws a diverse crowd by offering cheap eats, quick beers, and the chance to belt out old-time numbers by the likes of Gershwin and Porter. An older man might wow the crowd with his dead-on Billie Holiday impression while a sax player leans against the bar wallpapered with yellowing business cards. Go in humming "Fly Me to the Moon," but don't be surprised if you leave singing "The Man That Got Away." It's such a romantic place that if you ditch your date, both of you are certain to find new objects of desire before the evening is through. 3325 Grand, Oakl. (510) 444-8505.

Best Place to Sip a Milkshake Forehead-to-Forehead

With its parlor chairs, well-stocked '50s jukebox, and long list of delectable ice-cream concoctions, **Fenton's Creamery and Restaurant** takes you back to a time when buying your date a sundae with a cherry on top guaranteed you a kiss goodnight (but no tongue; people get pregnant that way). An old-fashioned family-owned creamery, Fenton's constantly plays host to children's



Matrimonial Kwik-E-Mart: No appointments or blood tests are necessary to tie the knot at the San Francisco County Clerk's Office, the Best Place to Go for a Shotgun Wedding.

birthday parties, so there's plenty of opportunity to endear yourself to your date by making cutesy faces at little kids. Fenton's offers takeout, so you may also wish to engage in further whipped cream experiments later on when you and your sugar are alone. 4226 Piedmont, Oakl. (510) 658-7000.

Best Place to Go for a Shotgun Wedding

There are those who will spend months grappling with the challenges of an expensive wedding, from do-we-want-pressed-marigolds-or-double-lining-in-the-invitation to will-the-ice-sculptures-last-the-whole-evening. Then there are those who would prefer a quick stop at the **San Francisco County Clerk's office**, where the staff works through lunch and no blood tests are required. A marriage license costs \$69 (the most sexually suggestive number in range), and no appointments are necessary. There is a fine selection of fast-food chains in the surrounding Civic Center area where the newlyweds can celebrate with some greasy fries and burgers. **City Hall**, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Suite 168, S.F. (415) 554-4950, www.ci.sf.ca.us/countyclerk.

Best Morning-After Breakfast Dive Where You Won't Get Caught by Your Spouse

Even vegetarians need a homey greasy spoon. **Smokey Joe's Café**, often plagued by a long line on weekends, is nonetheless the perfect dive in which to enjoy a clandestine omelette with the one you're not sure you love. Ned Getline has been throwing customers

Continued on page 125

NORTH

BERKELEY

BY JEREMY RUSSELL

To get to North Berkeley, take Shattuck north from downtown Berkeley — after several blocks you'll find yourself in what's been dubbed the gourmet ghetto," a veritable garden of fine food, specialty shops, classy cafés, and even an acupressure school. It'll take a few more blocks, but eventually you'll outdistance the throngs from the University of California campus and things will generally quiet down. When you get to Cedar Street, you're at ground zero — please ignore the Starbucks. However, above that corporate coffee outlet is Café de la Paz, a fine place to enjoy South American-style cuisine, tapas, and entertainment; across the street is the incomparable Thai restaurant Cha-am. Up the street a bit is Alice Waters's internationally famous Chez Panisse, the birthplace of California nouvelle cuisine. Those eateries are the gateposts to North Berkeley.

Though Berkeley affects to have no affectation, don't let that downtrodden, underdog, worked-over, worn-down facade fool you. There's been a lot of gentrification: the whole southwest corner of Cedar at Shattuck was recently remodeled and downtown at Shattuck and Hearst, a snooty place called Liaison just opened opposite Oscar's, a venerable and extremely greasy hamburger joint whose menu boasts that the fries contain "no sulfides." The two venues glare angrily at each other from opposite corners of Hearst, caught in a culinary class war.

Continue north on Shattuck past Cedar, through Solano tunnel, and you'll reach Solano Avenue, where the whole vanity fair starts anew. Let me put it this way: you know you're in a gourmet ghetto when you see an Andronico's Market.

Solano Avenue's constellation of tiny food shops features everything from ice cream to bagels, sushi to burritos. There's a movie theater, two good book stores, and an even greater variety of shops than on upper Shattuck. Highlights include wine tasting at Solano Cellars and the always wonderful Zachary's pizza. On the downside, parking on Solano is perennially a bitch, and there's another Starbucks (but you probably already guessed there would be).

It wouldn't be fair to North Berkeley, however, to focus solely on the gourmet ghetto. There's a lot more to do north of the campus than just stuffing your face. For a little solitude and a great view, the campus of the Graduate Theological Union cannot be beat. Known to locals as Holy Hill, this smattering of churches, synagogues, and religious learning institutions is a great place to commune with the deity of your choice, walk a dog, or take in the fireworks over the bay on the Fourth of July (people have been known to do all three). Not far from Holy Hill you'll find the Berkeley Rose Garden, with another gorgeous view of the bay. It's great to just sit quietly while listening to the tennis balls bouncing in the courts of bourgeois affluence below and watching the sun arc majestically in its daily swan dive behind the Golden Gate — if you can steal a bench from one of the students trying to study philosophy away from the dorms.

Best Place to Discover Why People Really Come to California It's **Chez Panisse!** This is the restaurant that started it all when it comes to "California cuisine," and it remains the Everest of the genre — imagine a bistro out of a Bret Easton Ellis novel, except populated by hippies. Here the gourmet ghetto reaches the height of luxury. Call in advance if you want a table; expect both the price and the menu to be firmly fixed around \$100 a plate. On the other hand, if you're less inclined to plan-



California dreaming: At Chez Panisse, the Best Place to Discover Why People Really Come to California, head chef Russell Moore smiles over his tasty tarts.

ning ahead or taking out a second mortgage on your home, you can eat at the café upstairs. It's all good, as they say; more important it's all organic and locally grown. Check the Web site, www.chezpanisse.com, for meal details. 1517 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 548-5525.

Best Place to Tipple with Tapas

Being as basically wonderful and exciting as it is, Chez Panisse has naturally spawned some spin-offs, such as **Cesar**, a few doors away. This cozy little cocktail bar features rustic decor and more tapas than you can shake a toothpick at. Stop in for a gourmet snack and an exquisite mixed drink or just to sip expensive wine before dinner. You won't regret it, although you'll probably have to wait in line and shout to be heard over the din. 1515 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 883-0222.

Best Jewish Deli

Saul's Restaurant and Delicatessen features a selection that ranges from the authentic to the exotic, with plenty of staples in between. Saul's is one place you're guaranteed fantastic food and fantastic service at a reasonable price. Expect large crowds at breakfast sampling the deli hash, the latkes, and the scrambled eggs and salami. Another crowd enjoys a wide variety of sandwiches and salads for lunch. The dinner menu is slightly more limited, but the main dish changes daily, and a late lunch is always an option. When in doubt go with bagels and lox. Being a real Jewish deli, Saul's is open on Christmas. 1475 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 848-DELI.

Best Place to Get a Buzz Going

Peet's — simply the best coffee in Berkeley, maybe the entire East Bay. Prepare to be wired. Two locations in the gourmet ghetto: 1906 Vine, Berk., (510) 841-0564; and 1825 Solano, Berk. (510) 526-9607.

Best All-American Meal in the People's Republic

They may call it the People's Republic of Berkeley, but let it not be said that you can't find good old American cuisine. At the corner of Rose and MLK Jr. Way, **Fatapples** is a great place for breakfast, and especially for pancakes — we're talking pumpkin pancakes here! At lunch the selection includes burgers, of course. And when you need a pie for that office party (or when you just need a pie), Fatapples is your place. 1346 MLK Jr. Way, Berk. (510) 526-2260.

The Best Burn-the-Roof-of-Your-Mouth Indian Food

At the very top of Solano, **Ajanta** is also at the top of its game, offering some of the tastiest and spiciest Indian food around. Although it may be the preferred choice of culinary masochists, you don't have to order everything "very hot"; you can also order it in mild, medium, or merely hot. The featured selection changes, but the menu always has an excellent range of choices, including standbys such as tandoori, tikka, samosa, and masala. Do not leave without trying the mango lassi; you may need it to put out the fire in your mouth. 1888 Solano, Berk. (510) 526-4373.

Best Place to Take a Hike

Tilden Park, which is just over the hill from Berkeley, is open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. This beautiful spread of acreage is one of the best regional parks around. Activities include hiking, biking, swimming, a petting zoo, a golf course, and a botanical garden. The way the park drops behind the hill makes you feel like you're miles from the hustle and bustle of Berkeley, yet it's only a 15-minute car ride away. Tilden is so nice a lot of people hold their wedding receptions there. Entrances off Wildcat Canyon Road and Grizzly Peak Blvd., Berk. (510) 562-PARK.

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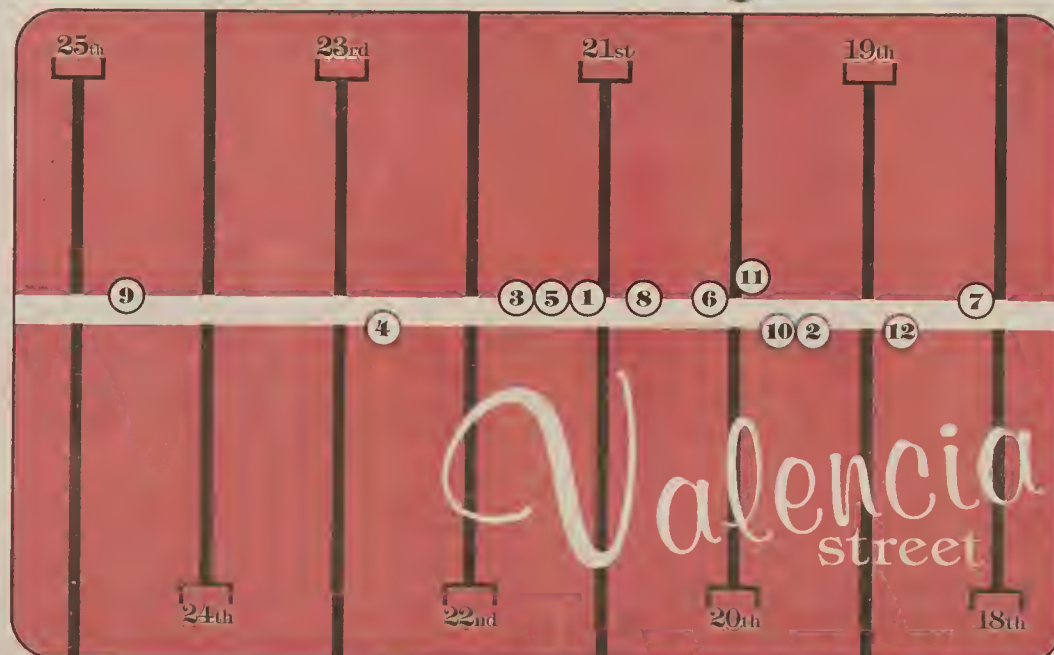
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their eggs and hash since before the Grateful Dead's first tour. (And by the way, that's *potato* hash; Smokey Joe's sells pipes for tobacco use only. Ahem.) The meals are hearty and down-to-earth, just like the atmosphere. You won't be able to find a bottle of Grey Poupon to throw at the local hippie regulars. So put on your shades, sink behind a newspaper, and eat away your mutual hangover. 1620 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 548-4616.

Best Place to Re-Crete a Romantic Scene from a John Hughes Film

The **Greek Theatre**, the UC-owned venue that becomes an empty amphitheater most weeknights, is as close as you can get to the Hollywood Bowl scene from the classic 1987 teen-angst flick *Some Kind of Wonderful*. There are no big balls onstage, but it's quiet, it's secluded, and you have to sneak in. Whether you relate more to the pretty girl victimized by an unhealthy high school relationship, the tomboy waiting in the limo outside, or Eric Stoltz, you're bound to snuggle up on a stone bench and quite likely to make out under the moonlight. Unless, of course, the cops show up. Gayley Road, UC Berkeley. (510) 642-5500.

Best Marriage Counselor Who Will Beat You into Reconciliation

Sometimes quarreling lovers just need a good spanking. **Ouchy the Clown**, a San Francisco-based pro domme and DJ, is a trained mediator. Therapy or BDSM? Lie on a sofa or get handcuffed to a chair? The differences between a typical marriage counselor and a vicious clown in black leather are really more superfi-

cial than substantial. Ouchy is eager to help couples with any dilemma, especially sexual-incompatibility issues. He can encourage you to talk through your problems, but of course he can also tie you and your partner up and whip you into a state of marital bliss. Call for rates. (415) 789-8439, www.ouchythec clown.com.

Best Place to Buy Yourself Flowers

Just like the smell of a bakery lures in unwitting passersby, so do the intoxicating scents wafting from **Church Street Flowers** attract the lonely and the love-struck alike. Sure, there's plenty in Church Street Flowers to buy for someone else; the independently owned and run store features handpicked market selections, cards made by local artists, and a unique collection of homemade Paddy Wax candles. But many regular customers (and there are, indeed, many who come for a weekly fix) come to give themselves a special treat. "You spend three bucks on a fancy coffee drink," explains Michael Ritz, who co-owns Church Street Flowers with his partner Tom Teel, "and the coffee won't make you feel nearly as good as the flowers will. A lot of people want to go here on vacation." 212 Church, S.F. (415) 553-7762, www.churchstreetflowers.com.

Best Homemade-Fudge Store

The Beatles were right when they sang, "All you need is fudge." You can try to pretend that one bite of **Shaws San Francisco's** chocolate walnut fudge doesn't have you thoroughly seduced, but the illusion won't last. Owner Kathryn Claitor, who began working at Shaws San Francisco while still in high school, makes all the fudge on the premises and is happy to take special requests. Her most unusual to date, she claims, is vanilla with Heath Bar crumble. 122 West Portal, S.F. (415) 681-2702.

Best Linen Store

The flowers died, the fudge got eaten, the bathtub water grew cold. It's time to employ some creativity to make sure your instruments of seduction will endure. While a bit upscale, **Slips'** custom-made designs for bedding, linen, curtains, and other bedroom items you can't wait to leave in a pile on the floor are well worth the price. Diamonds may be forever, but you can't ruffle and roll around in them. 1534 Grant, S.F. (415) 362-5652.



PHOTO BY EVAN STONE

Multitasker: Pro domme, DJ, and trained mediator Ouchy the Clown is the Best Marriage Counselor Who Will Beat You into Reconciliation.

Best Way to Get Rid of a Stalker

He or she may be watching every move you make, but you can now take legal recourse. **Temporary restraining orders** can be obtained either at City Hall or through Woman Inc. (which maintains a 24-hour hotline). They're granted by a civil court judge (usually rather quickly) and last for three years. Two other types of restraining orders to facilitate the distancing process from an obsessive or abusive ex: An emergency protective order is issued by the police at the time of the incident. It is signed by a judge and is good for five court days. A stay-away order is granted by a criminal court judge and lasts for the duration of the case or the length of the batterer's probation. City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, S.F. (415) 554-4171; Woman Inc., S.F. (415) 864-4722.

Best Gay-Wedding Planner

Chanda, of **A Monique Affair**, claims to be the only wedding planner in the Bay Area who caters directly to queers juggling the logistics of their commitment ceremonies. While some other planners are stuck in a hetero paradigm, Chanda believes that "if you love weddings and events, it shouldn't matter who wants your services." From just coordinating the big day (a base fee of \$625) to directed wine tastings and gown consultations, Chanda will accommodate each couple's preferences. She prescreens vendors to make sure they're queer-friendly, and she even hosted a gay-wedding showcase last year. Jennifer Lopez, eat your heart out. amoniqueaffair.com, Chanda@gayweddingplanners.com. ♦



Aw, fudge: Jamie Westmoreland displays delicious merchandise at Shaws San Francisco, the Best Homemade-Fudge Store.

Fever pitch

By Candi Strecker

*It's always the end of an era in San Francisco.
Herb Caen*

By now the casual comparison has solidified into legend: the Internet rush of the late 1990s was the biggest thing to happen to the Bay Area since the gold rush of 1849.

Those two transforming moments, those two monster spikes on the economic graph, have come to define our city. And it's tempting to draw parallels between the two events. Each time, when word got out that quick and easy fortunes could be made here, people the world over dropped what they were doing and flocked to San Francisco. Treasure seekers found primitive conditions at exorbitant prices (the drafty shack in the diggings, the \$2000-a-month shared apartment in the Mission).

But they suffered those privations and worked from dawn to dusk and beyond, knowing that with luck they might be the first to stake a claim somewhere (a nugget-sprinkled spot on a mother lode riverbed, a chunk of unexploited intellectual territory) and hit pay dirt. Even the dates hint at some cosmic Kennedy/Lincoln assassination-esque synchronicity: gold fever in 1849, dot-com fever in 1999.

And it's especially easy to compare the Net rush to the gold rush since, after all, everybody's heard of the gold rush. Whether you've been here 10 years or 10 weeks, you probably know the rough details of the story. The gold rush is the epic founding myth for both San Francisco and the state of California. We're surrounded with references to it, from our "Golden State" nickname to the name of our football team to the gold leaf on the dome of the Civic Center.

But in fact, not one but *two* huge discoveries of precious metals fundamentally shaped San Francisco and fueled its development. The gold of 1849 laid the loose foundations for a boomtown, but it was the unfathomably rich deposits of silver found in Nevada's Comstock Lode between 1859 and 1880 that built the city as we know it today. (How rich were these deposits? Translated into modern figures, they contained silver worth — say it in a Dr. Evil voice, with pinkie in mouth — six billion dollars. While this is only about three-quarters of the value of the gold unearthed in the gold rush decade, it's no small chunk of change.

The story of the silver bonanza, though not as well known as the gold rush saga, is full of remarkable parallels to the recent Internet boom. And if the patterns of history can help us know what to expect in the future, then examining what happened after the silver boom went bust may help us see where San Francisco will be heading in the aftermath of the dot-com collapse.

One crucial similarity between the silver bonanza and the Internet industry boom is that both were made possible by venture capital. The

gold rush had been a moment of opportunity for individuals, who needed little more than a shovel and a pan to sift valuable flakes from stream-bed gravel. In this way, it was a hit like the early days of the personal computer industry, when garage tinkerers and boy geniuses could strike it rich from their inventions.

But most Comstock silver lay deep underground. Before the first ounce of silver could be extracted, mine owners had to hire crews of laborers and buy massive amounts of state-of-the-art steam-driven equipment. San Francisco bankers financed these up-front costs, often securing the loans against shares of the mines and their future earnings. And in both episodes, where there were shares, there were stock speculators. Though the truly massive fortunes were amassed, as always, by those with inside information and capital to invest, many ordinary citizens struck overnight wealth by betting on the right stock rumor.

Descriptions of the gambling madness that gripped the city in the 1870s sound hauntingly familiar today. In the words of historian Oscar Lewis, "Speculation in Nevada mining stocks [became] San Francisco's major industry. The spirits of the entire city rose and fell in unison with the daily quotations on the board at the Mining Exchange.... Few citizens did not personally know someone — no smarter than himself — who had turned a profitable deal in Comstock stocks; fewer still resisted the temptation to get some of the easy money for himself." Anyone whose annoying coworkers or gloating relatives rode big gains in Amazon.com or Cisco stock in the '90s will recognize that "no smarter than himself" feeling.

In both booms, San Francisco benefited from work done elsewhere. Though the silver itself was mined in Nevada, San Francisco profited by making the loans that made mining possible and by selling the gear needed at the distant site. Those who succeeded in Nevada brought their earnings to San Francisco, buying everyday and luxury goods and, especially, houses. Silver money triggered a building boom that remade the city, giving it the layout and the look we know today: as Gary Brechin puts it in his book *Imperial San Francisco*, Comstock silver "mainlined the U.S. economy with a sudden rush of precious and base metals and paid for the dizzy excess of Victorian architecture."

While the Silicon Valley of the 1990s was no harsh Nevada desert, the energetic young generation that worked there during the dot-com boom still preferred spending its money in San Francisco than in Cupertino. The 99ers came to the city to shop, soak up the urban ambience, and indulge in big-city nightlife. And so many of them chose to live in San Francisco while working in the silicon suburbs that they actually reversed the

direction of the commuter flow on the peninsula's freeways. Developers rushed to put lofts and condos on every available parcel of urban land.

And just as dot-com bosses bought their workers lattes and pizzas to keep them pounding out code deep into the night, Oscar Lewis notes that "[stock] brokers who had to keep their office forces late to enter the day's orders, nightly treated two dozen clerks to the best dinners the town could provide, with unlimited champagne."

Perhaps the oddest parallel between the silver bonanza and the Internet boom is that both were unexpected by-products of other activities. Comstock silver was found by gold prospectors who only slowly realized it might be worth assaying the annoying "blue mud" that surrounded some thin veins of gold. Today's commercialized Internet grew unexpectedly out of ARPANET, a government-sponsored scientific communications network.

So what do the years after 1880 (when the silver veins abruptly petered out) suggest will come in 2001 and beyond? A new Gilded Age of grandiosity, excess, and vulgar display, as new multimillionaires find time to spend their boom money. This should provide endless entertainment for those of us lucky enough to stick around. A few things we may soon see:

Weird technology transfer Just as the wire ropes used to hoist ore from Comstock mines became the basis for a new form of urban transportation — the cable car — Internet technology will surely be applied to odd but useful new purposes.

Prominent erections Top financier of the silver boom William Chapman Ralston built a massive suburban estate as well as the opulent Palace Hotel, part inn, part personal monument. The Woodside mansion that Larry Ellison of Oracle is building is probably just the first of a new wave of super-residences.

Old money meets new money Tech-geek millionaires are as ill-suited to entering high society as the uncouth miners and saloonkeepers who struck it rich in the Comstock. But they'll try anyway.

Vanity charities Those with piles of money and an unsatisfied longing to do something "meaningful" will start their own do-good organizations.

Dissolute heirs Dollar for dollar, your best entertainment value is the child of new wealth — though we'll have to wait a decade or two to see what trouble the second generation gets into.

New emperors San Francisco is overdue for a new eccentric mascot. When Joshua Norton lost a fortune in the 1860s, he also lost his grip on reality and proclaimed himself emperor of the United States. Somehow, he convinced the whole city to play along. Maybe some of those whose paper fortunes recently vanished can follow in his regal footsteps. ♦

BAY AREA HISTORY

GUARDIAN PHOTOGRAPHS BY FRED VERHOEVEN



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THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY



Oar house: The Longshoremen's Memorial Building mural *Tribute to Two Strikers Murdered by Police in the San Francisco Maritime Strike* is the Best Mural Outside of the Mission District.

Best Way to Channel the Summer of Love

Give us Birkenstocks. Give us wanton near-nudity. Give us long hair flying westward in the San Francisco breeze ... give us **Hippie Hill!** Wow, man, it's almost like the last 32 years never happened in this little corner of Golden Gate Park. No Reagan, no Star Wars, no dot-com boom — just you and this cast of characters: 53 bongo, timbal, and tabla percussionists chugging and bopping the day away, nine fiddles, flutes, or harmonicas, one island-accented MC, 14 very conspicuous acid trippers, 18 bong-hitters, 23 kids under the age of seven, two Amoeba employees on lunch break, three or so couples making out, one large family barbecue, 21 napping ravers, six Hacky Sackers, one boom box blaring the Grateful Dead's "Casey Jones," and one wacky guy, naked except for his expertly knotted hemp-rope G-string. Come with me, brothers and sisters, to the time warp that is Hippie Hill. And don't forget the one-hitter, dude. *Golden Gate Park, S.F. Enter at Haight and Stanyan, follow the sidewalk through the foot tunnel, make a soft right off the path, and let your ears guide you there.*

Best Restaurant Comeback

The old U.S. Restaurant was an unpretentious North Beach classic, the kind of place where glasses of house red wine were served up in ordinary water tumblers. Then in 1999 it closed, after the double whammy of a remodel and an unpopular, upscaled new menu. This year it's back as the **Original U.S. Restaurant**, with a menu that restores the familiar ravioli and spaghetti with meatballs and adds a few trendier entrées like grilled swordfish with lentils. Former regulars will miss the wonderful old "point" location, where big windows overlooked Stockton and

Columbus Streets where they met. Now the restaurant is shoehorned into the middle of a pasta-dense block of Columbus, but the decor gives the illusion that the place has been there forever. As before, tables in the main dining area are so close together that diners sit almost elbow to elbow in a one-big-family way; if you don't mind climbing a staircase almost as steep as a bunk bed's ladder, you can also sit in the mezzanine nook, which has a few tables. Portions are as enormous as ever. And all seems right with the world when the Friday specials are bacalà, stewed rabbit, and fried calamari. *515 Columbus, S.F. (415) 397-5200.*

Best Return to Traditional Values

Last year AM radio station **KABL** made a disastrous format switch to the soft and soporific sounds of Barry Manilow, Gordon Lightfoot, and Helen Reddy. On Jan. 2, after six painful months, the station returned to the smooth and swinging classics it had previously played: Frank Sinatra and Glenn Miller, Louie Prima and Keely Smith. And, quite simply, the world was a better place. While Barry, Gordon, and Helen surely have their fans and maybe even deserve their own station, so do Judy Garland, Artie Shaw, and the Mills Brothers. Besides, this city *needs* one station where listeners can count on hearing Tony Bennett sing "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" once every day. *KABL, 960 AM.*

Best Reason to Stay in San Francisco for Another 160 Years

According to certain sources, in the year 2161 the Presidio will return to military use when the United Federation of Planets wisely chooses to locate its **Starfleet headquarters and Starfleet Academy** there. That will be right after the Earth-Romulan War, of course. Images spotted on the Internet show that

the Golden Gate Bridge will survive the war to provide a photogenic backdrop to the academy's buildings. Alas, these sources fail to answer another burning question: will Bill Shatner still be doing those Priceline.com ads in 2161?

Best Mural Outside of the Mission District

Journey to the Longshoreman's Memorial Building to view a replica of a mural called **Tribute to Two Strikers Murdered by Police in the San Francisco Maritime Strike**. On July 5, 1934, scab labor crossed maritime worker picket lines on the docks near the Southern Pacific Depot at Third and Townsend Streets. In the aftermath that was to be called the Battle of Rincon Hill, police shot strikers Howard Sperry and Nicholas Bordoise. Fellow strikers drew chalk outlines, near Steuart and Mission, to pay respect to the site where Sperry and Bordoise were killed. Tens of thousands of labor activists and supporters marched in the funeral procession following "Bloody Thursday" while the National Guard occupied the Embarcadero. The International Longshore and Warehouse Union hasn't forgotten the events and asks you not to either. The replica is on view at the main entrance of the Longshoreman's Memorial Building. *400 North Point, S.F. (415) 776-8100.*

Best Place to Experience Historical Irony San Francisco-Style

California is a state often accused of a lack of irony, and yet the government officials who selected serpentine as the state rock chose a mineral that's carcinogenic. That's right, folks, serpentine is asbestos, and it exists in abundance, naturally, in that huge mound of earth beneath the San Francisco Mint. You've probably heard, but just in case you haven't, mesothelioma is the lung cancer one gets when working too close to too much asbestos for too long. A cottage industry sprung up in the 1970s to defend workers with mesothelioma, leaving many lawyers and victims with, well, a mint. For the best view of the dangerous substance, have a seat at the tables outside of **Café Focus** on Market Street. You can satiate your caffeine fix and go on a DSL bender, all while contemplating the risk factor imposed by those pennies in your pocket displaying the San Francisco symbol. You'll probably want to hold on to your cash; just don't lick your fingers. *2041 Market, S.F. (415) 864-4359.*

Best Literary Punk Rock Show That Is No More

If you think going to a literary reading in a café sounds like a staid night out,

you obviously never went to **Wicked Awesome**. Organized by local luminary Michelle Tea, the reading series regularly packed Red Dora's Bearded Lady Café beyond capacity, and for good reason. Tea has a knack for pulling in some of the best local writers, and for Wicked Awesome that included Kirk Read, Carol Queen, Jan Richman, and Cooper Lee Bombardier, as well as some great touring writers. Tea introduced them like they were rock stars, and her enthusiasm spilled out into the crowd. It was irreverent, hilarious, touching, and a tremendous amount of fun. Sadly, the inimitable Tea just moved to Los Angeles, and she reported to us that the fate of Wicked Awesome is uncertain at best. Perhaps someone else will revive this bit of recent history, and Wicked Awesome will live again.

Best San Francisco History Lesson

Ever been curious about the history of your neighborhood? **San Francisco City Guides** is here to help. The guides are a coalition of 200 volunteers/history buffs who lead approximately 20 walking tours a month. Their tours are lively and full of interesting stories about everyday life in San Francisco past. City Guides' mission is to "preserve and perpetuate the history and folklore of San Francisco and to celebrate its rich history of cultural diversity." While it's easy to get caught up in the present, a City Guides walk will give you perspective on the city and your life in it. As an added bonus, you'll meet your neighbors. *www.sfcityguides.org.*

Best Depression-Era Night Out

While the live music, stand-up comedy, and special events held at **Paramount Theatre of the Arts** in Oakland are nothing to sneeze at, the theater comes alive when it screens classic Hollywood films on Friday nights, when visitors can get a real feel for what it was like to be out on the town in jazz-era St. Louis in your grandparents' day. Doors open an hour before the film starts, which gives you plenty of time to enjoy a cocktail amid the sublime, art deco ambience of this architectural gem. Many filmgoers even dress the part and arrive in classic Hollywood couture. Always in style is the floor show that precedes each film, in which the lovely Dot spins the Dec-O-Win wheel and hands out raffle prizes to the crowd, all to the tune of Jim Riggs and his mighty Wurliizer organ. There's nothing depressing about it! It's a beautiful way to have a night of wholesome, old-school fun that would make grandma happy. *2025 Broadway, Oakl. (510) 465-6400.*

Best '84 Karaoke Time Warp

Oddly named but stunningly decorated, **Resistance** karaoke bar in Japantown is like visiting Seoul, Korea, at a time when sushi was fancy and nouveau men with facial hair and turtle necks would hum along with "Mr. Roboto." While enormous square white leather chairs dominate the space and gang up on tiny cocktail tables, the room sports plenty of mirrors and chrome fixtures that make the place seem larger. The food is tasty but horribly overpriced (especially if you want to factor in the 2001-1984 exchange rate), but big bottles of Korean sochu are a tasty and affordable drinking option. The song list sadly lacks a few classics — despite all the retro luxury — and it helps if you're fluent in Korean, but "Open Arms" and "9 to 5" will certainly be enough to entertain you and yours for a few hours. The place gets busy, and you may be turned away, but this struggle is yet another enticing part of Resistance. *1700 Post, S.F. (415) 775-6688.*

Best Place to Meet Senior Hipsters

You think you and your friends are just *so cool* hanging out in the Mission during the week and then trashing it as amateur night on the weekends. Well, we've got news for you, bucko. If you really want to see the freak flag wave high, try hobnobbing with the folks who have lived here and lived weird for, like, 50 years. Such are the members of the **San Francisco History Association**. Their meetings on the fourth Thursday of the month are attended by historians fascinated by our fantastic city, each of whom has his or her own little, um, quirks, the kind that separate obsessive collectors and historians from regular people. Your friend in a rock band pales in coolness when compared with those that collect San Francisco sheet music. And your tattoos are run-of-the-mill when seen next to the old guy who never wears anything but full Victorian dress. Each person in this intimate group is a unique character, with the "baby" among them at least a sexagenarian. Call them kooks, call them eccentrics, but these people are damn good conversation and a piece of living history. *Fourth Thursdays, Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 678 Portola Drive, S.F. www.sanfranciscohistory.org.*

Best Place to Have Seen a Movie on a Low Budget, If You Didn't Mind Being Surrounded by Rats, Masturbators, and Cigarette Smoke

While the Metreon's tiered, cushy seating and surround sound make for

some of the comfiest movie viewing in town, you pay for what you get. That's why the **St. Francis Theatres** were perfectly acceptable for those of us who live on a tight budget. Sadly, the theaters are boarded up and closed now, but you got what you paid for there as well, and then some. While daily matinee tickets for recent blockbusters ran as low as a few dead presidents, the price of admission also included the pleasure of being able to light up a cigarette (or whatever else you might be smokin') during a flick without anyone batting an eyelash. And now and then you might see a rat scampering between seats or look over and catch some guy nearby with a hand down his pants. Priceless. 965 Market, S.F. (415) 362-4822.

Best Way to Find 200 Leggs Containers from the '70s

The detritus of a thousand art projects, home renovations, and failed retail campaigns lives on at **SCRAP (Scroungers' Center for Re-usable Art Parts)**, the place where decorative crap goes not to die but to find a second life. If you've ever been a performance artist or gone to Burning Man, you were probably dragged to the dusty warehouse on desolate Toland Street, wondering what on earth could possibly be housed in the cavernous, decrepit space. What a surprise to find stacked-to-the-ceiling bits and pieces begging to be transformed from trash into art. SCRAP is not a place to go to find specific items — if you need half a yard of purple velveteen or burnt sienna oil paint, you're better off at Flax or Mendel's. SCRAP is a place to be inspired. You'll soon find yourself wrapped in piles of pink-and-green tulle and buying a truckload of perfectly veined pink marble pieces and a trash-can-size heap of 1960s-era carpeting samples. Hey, it could come in handy someday. 801 Toland, S.F. (415) 647-1746.



Sympathy for the devil: The Anton LaVey House, at 6114 California St., is the Best Soon-to-be-Demolished Shrine to Satan.

Best Music for the New Depression

From the Panic of 1907 to the Great Depression, an economically shattered populace found comfort in the light, cheerful tunes of Tin Pan Alley. The jury's still out on the current economy, but there's no doubt that the **Frisky Frolics** have mastered a full repertoire of those cheerful tunes — just in case. With the Dimestore Dandy (ukulele), Kitten on the Keys (piano), TeeGee (bass), and Miss Tippy Canoe (percussion) playing such toe-tapping numbers as "The Best Things in Life Are Free" and "My Girl's Pussy," why, you'll just want to pack up all your troubles in your old kit pack and forget about that hig bad bear market. www.geocities.com/squisheykitty.

Best Bar to Drink in Like It's 1949

For years the unusual operating hours at **Tony Nik's** (last call at 7 p.m.) made it the best-kept secret in North Beach. But the son of the original owner has brought the business back into the family and the bar back out into the open. The sign outside may be the oldest in North Beach (it went up the day Prohibition was repealed). But inside, the clock has only been rolled back to the bar's last remodeling, in 1949, when it acquired its subtly shaded tile back bar and understated mahogany paneling. The result is a slick, sleek drinking establishment that oozes midcentury modern cool and demands that you sip a martini as you ponder the wonders of the Age of Anxiety. 1534 Stockton, S.F. (415) 693-0990.

Best Bar to Drink in Like It's 1908

In 1908 the **House of Shields** opened for business on the ground floor of the brand-new Sharon Building. We're guessing the proprietors stopped scattering sawdust on the floors in the

1920s. In the 1990s they introduced bar stools. And that, friends, sums up 92 years of change at the House of Shields. Those details aside, it's the same white-collar workingman's bar where your great, great granddaddy drank schooners of beer as he bemoaned that newfangled income tax. Both the plank bar and the ornate tile floor glow with the patina of five generations' worth of age and wear. A yellowing Charles McCabe clipping on the wall sums it up: "Time Stands Still at the House of Shields." 39 New Montgomery, S.F. (415) 392-7732.

Best World War II Memorial

Unlike most World War II monuments, the **USS San Francisco Memorial** dispenses with the statuary in favor of a more visceral approach. The memorial commemorates a 1942 engagement off the coast of Guadalcanal, one of the most violent close-quarters naval battles of the war. The cruiser *USS San Francisco* sunk one Japanese ship and heavily damaged two others (including a battleship) while taking some 45 hits. One hundred and six sailors, including Rear Adm. Daniel Callaghan, were killed, and 131 more were wounded. Despite extensive damage, they made it back to port safely. The memorial, overlooking Seal Rock, consists of a flag, the usual commemorative plaques, and portions of the *USS San Francisco's* shell-riddled bridge. There's nothing like seeing heavy-gauge steel perforated like Swiss cheese to appreciate just what happened on that long-ago night. *El Camino del Mar, Land's End, S.F.*

Best Barely Legitimate Literary Landmark

The plaque on the **Conan Doyle Victorian mansion** intriguingly informs passersby that "this house, built in 1881, was once occupied by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle." It evokes images of Doyle scribbling a Sherlock Holmes story in the old Victorian during some extended San Francisco sojourn. As every dedicated Sherlockian knows, Dr. Watson did practice in San Francisco at one point. Alas, the truth is far more prosaic. Doyle only visited San Francisco once on a lecture tour in 1923. He stayed at the Clift Hotel. He "occupied" 2151 Sacramento for a few hours one morning for a visit with the owner. But, as literary historian Don Herron says, "It's a hell of a plaque." 2151 Sacramento, S.F.

Best Novel Set in San Francisco You've Never Heard Of

We don't understand why *Our Lady of Darkness*, by Fritz Leiber, is barely in print. Leiber's 1977 horror-fantasy

GUARDIAN PHOTO BY NATASHA ELKSMAN



Dumpster-diver's paradise: The makings of your next art project could be at SCRAP, the Best Way to Find 200 Leggs Containers from the '70s.

novel about a science fiction writer who unwittingly triggers a 40-year-old cosmological trap is one of our favorites. We'd love it even if it were set in L.A. But it's all the better for the vividly realized San Francisco locale. Action alternates between a Civic Center-Tenderloin area and Corona Heights, and Leiber gets the local color down to the point of accurately describing how to steal books from the Main Library back in the day. We defy you to read this one on a foggy night without getting creeped out. *Our Lady of Darkness can be found with Leiber's Conjure Wife in the twofer Dark Ladies (Tor Books).*

Best Place to Contemplate Old San Francisco Bohemia

No, we don't mean the Mission District circa 1992, but the turn-of-the-century San Francisco of Jack London, Gelett Burgess, and Ambrose Bierce, when the slopes of **Russian Hill** (!) were home to a thriving literary community. At the center of the scene was George Sterling, the unofficial poet laureate of San Francisco, whom Bierce called "poet of the skies, prophet of the suns." He committed suicide in 1926 and is little read today. But his spirit lingers on in a little park on Russian Hill called George Sterling Glade. Watch the fog roll in, and you too can see why Sterling called San Francisco the "cool grey city of love." *Below Alice Marble Tennis Courts, Greenwich at Larkin, S.F.*

Best Audible World War II Relic

That eerie wail that fills the city every Tuesday at noon sharp isn't a lunch siren but the **weekly test of San Francisco's air raid siren network**. Dating back to the early days of World War II, when an air raid was not at all unlikely, the 49-siren network (yep, one per square mile) has now had its

mission extended to cover emergencies and disasters of all stripes, from terrorism to tsunamis. They haven't seen much use lately, but when the big whatever hits, they're ready to wail. When they do, just tune your radio in to one of the big AM news stations to find out whether you should duck and cover or run like hell.

Best Soon-to-Be-Demolished Shrine to Satan

Anton LaVey has departed this mortal coil, triggering a probate battle that has left the **Anton LaVey House** — a black Victorian out of which he ran the Church of Satan for so many years — a stripped, boarded-up shell of its former self. Barring a dark miracle, the crumbling setting for countless black masses will soon be demolished, undoubtedly to make room for more condos. But at press time this satanic stronghold still stands beaten but unbowed behind a new razor-wire fence. It's the perfect spot to pay midnight homage to the San Francisco-based Age of Satan. And those sounds — are they foghorns or faint echoes of the good doctor's organ?! 6114 California, S.F.

Best Place to Make You Swear Off Gold Rushes

So you've had it with cubicle slavery, 16 hours of fluorescent-lit toil in exchange for stock options even more virtual than your product. You want the wide-open spaces. Adventure! Excitement! Fortune! But before you buy that one-way ticket, check out the **Jack London cabin** in Jack London Square. This little turf-roofed log cabin is the sort of lodging in which your turn-of-the-century adventurous counterparts shivered through Alaskan winters during the 1897 Klondike gold rush. Dark, cold, and miles from the

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Bay Area History

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nearest dial-up connection ... yes, there are harder ways to make a million dollars than toiling in Multimedia Gulch. *Jack London Square, Oakland.*

Best Obsolete Housing Floor Plan

Houses don't have to be rectangular. In the 1850s there was a fad for **octagon-shaped houses** — something about eight sides being good luck or good for your health. Two of these militantly nonquadrilateral structures have survived 150 years of earthquakes, fire, and real estate speculation to see the 21st century: 1067 Green St. and 2645 Gough St. The Feusier Octagon House on Green is a (really cool-looking!) private home that can only be admired from afar. The Gough Street house is the headquarters of the National Society of Colonial Dames and is open for tours a few days a month. It's guaranteed to make you even more jealous of the people who own the Feusier House. *Gough Street house, 2645 Gough, S.F. (415) 441-7512; Green Street house, 1067 Green, S.F.*

Best Dot-Com Memorial

Arrogance, hucksterism, false promises, and financial instability. The **WebStreet Building**, on Market at Sansome, embodies everything that went wrong with the dot-conomy. The building — which used to house the Sharper Image — features a round-the-wall timeline — starting with the Man's discovery of California and ending with WebStreet's glorious arrival on Market Street. Just one problem: it went broke and never actually moved in. Despite WebStreet's pretensions to being the greatest thing ever to happen to the city by the bay, it is now no more than a minor division of E*Trade, which recently gobbled up

the struggling company. Today it stands as a ghostly reminder of the arrogance of the dot-com madness that nearly drove everything worthwhile from San Francisco. If you ask us, the city should just paint "never again" across the side and leave it as is. Unfortunately, however, it looks like E*Trade, of the smart-ass Super Bowl ads, will be moving in. Did we mention that it's a glass house? *532 Market, S.F.*

Best Century-Old Rebuke

Weird as it may sound, the area that's now taken up by touristy Chinatown and the Ritz was once a notorious hotbed of gambling houses, saloons, and brothels. Perhaps most notorious was Quincy Street, a small alley between Grant and Kearny off California. Quincy housed several "cribs," one-room brothels with as many as four girls doing business in spaces separated only by curtains. Nonetheless, when Archbishop Joseph Alemany went looking for a spot for a new cathedral in 1853, he chose a spot right by Quincy. Old St. Mary's Church, then and now, faces the alley, the carved face of its sandstone clock staring implacably, with this legend from Ecclesiasticus carved above: **"Son, observe the time and fly from evil."** Were sinners who stumbled from the alley and chanced to check the time really convinced of the error of their ways by St. Mary's forbidding clock? That answer is lost in time. But more than a century later it still gives sinners in the know a secret giggle. *St. Mary's Church, 660 California, S.F. (415) 288-3800.*

Best Fake Cultural Tourist Trap

Hundreds of thousands of tourists visit the **Golden Gate Fortune Cookie Factory** in Ross Alley in Chinatown every year; it's one of the last surviving places where fortune cookies are

still made by hand. They think they're getting a look at an old Chinese tradition. The truth is that fortune cookies were invented in America, though many believe they were inspired by the slips of rice paper 13th-century Chinese soldiers slipped into moon cakes to send covert messages during Mongol invasions. Who is the true inventor? It depends on whom you ask: some credit an S.F. cookie-maker named David Jung, who produced cookies in his Hong Kong Noodle Factory in the 1920s. Others point to Makoto Hagiwara, a Japanese designer who introduced fortune cookies at the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exhibition. Whatever you believe, it's clear that the cookies are popularly associated with Chinatown. Thus the hordes of tourists who invade Ross Alley daily, crowding into the tiny shop to watch two Chinese workers scoop the round cookies from the revolving griddles and bend the still-hot cookies around fortunes to make a mystical treat that's still fascinating, even if culturally ersatz. *56 Ross, S.F. (415) 781-3956.*

Best Peek Back at Prohibition-Era Pugilism

There was a time when Daly City, conveniently located on the border between San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, was a sleazy hood lined with clubs, bars, a greyhound racing track, and even boxing rings that played host to any number of illegal fights. Sports arenas were built quickly and sloppily, ready for raiding by the local authorities. All except one sporting club, which was built on the county line so that half of the ring was in San Francisco and half in San Mateo County. Legend has it that when San Francisco police would come to bust up the fights, the fighters would move to the other side of the ring, and into the next county, and keep on fighting. The **Silver Moon Saloon** in Daly City documents the time that was with a collection of pictures and other memorabilia. The saloon even holds a monthly luncheon for the group known as the Round House Boys, who remember the way it was the third Friday of each month. *212 School, Daly City. (650) 756-9377.*

Best Place to Soak in 40 Years of Gin Fumes

What is it that makes dedicated boozers love dive bars with such passion? The cracked, faded leather bar stools reeking of decades of beer spills? The gummy crust on the floor? The venerable pool tables? No, it's none of those things. The truth is that dive bars know how to cater to regulars. The drinks are cheap, strong, and good, the bartenders are brisk, and the company



Breathing lessons: The Hotsy Totsy Club in Albany is the Best Place to Soak in 40 Years of Gin Fumes.

is congenial. When you plunk your ass on one of the comfy seats, you know just by the feel that you're going to settle in for a little while. And if the settling you're doing is in the **Hotsy Totsy Club**, you may end up there for as long as some of the regulars, more than 40 years. The area where the Hotsy Totsy is located was once a no-man's-land strip between El Cerrito and Berkeley, well served by clubs, gambling houses, and whorehouses catering to the working class. When you visit the Hotsy Totsy and some of the other nearby bars on San Pablo Avenue, you'll see that little has changed. If Luann the bartender is working, see if she'll serve you some turbo juice (vodka-laced coffee — if you're a regular, you get your own cup to hang up) and sing some Dinah Washington or "King of the Road" for you. *601 San Pablo, Albany. (510) 525-9964.*

Best Place to Appreciate the Wiles of Patty Hearst

Located on the lot where the Hibernia Bank once stood, **Hollywood Video** is an odd monument to that fateful 1974 day when Patty Hearst (a.k.a. Tania) and her Symbionese Liberation Army pals took the Hibernia into their own machine gun-toting hands. You won't cross paths with the ski-masked 19-year-old Patty as we remember her from the security camera photos, but you might be able to rent a movie about it, or one of the five John Waters movies she has under her reformed-guerrilla belt. *1450 Noriega, S.F.*

Best Place to Believe It or Not

True, the **Ripleys Believe It or Not museum** is corporate and somewhat expensive (general admission \$9.95, 12 and under \$6.95), but if it means see-

ing a shrunken torso, a two-headed calf, or a cable car built entirely with matchsticks (270,000 of them), is there really too high an asking price? Well, probably. Nonetheless, the museum is a good place to take younger family members (nephews, cousins, and younger siblings that you must entertain while sober) or older family members whom you want to scare with your weirdness. Tell grandma you go every day. *175 Jefferson, S.F. (415) 771-6188.*

Best Place to Channel Your Inner Clint Eastwood

The **Carmelian Room**, on the 52nd floor of the Bank of America Building, happens to be where the opening scene from that epic wonder of a film, *Dirty Harry*, was filmed. For those who work up an appetite while poorly imitating for oh-so-tolerant friends the classic gem of a quote "You got to ask yourself one question: 'Do I feel lucky?,' " dinner starts at 6 p.m. Of course, your impression will probably be so dead-on that the manager will ask you to leave out of fear, you stud. *555 California, S.F. (415) 453-7500.*

Best Crooked Street Safe from Tourists

The **800-900 block of Vermont Street** is rumored to be even more knurlly than that lemming-cum-tourist nightmare Lombard Street, boasting six curves almost as crooked as the last presidential election. Consider bringing along that annoying visiting relative under the guise of presenting a "real" San Francisco experience. Buckle all seat belts and bring a barf bag if you are sensitive about upholstery. *Vermont St., S.F. ❖*



Wavy pavement: Take a drive down the 800-900 block of Vermont Street, the Best Crooked Street Safe from Tourists.

MIGUEL CARRERA

BY JAMIE T. KATZ

GUARDIAN PHOTO BY SAUL BECKMANN AND SANDRA HOOVER PHOTOGRAPHY



LOCAL HERO

Like so many young people in Mexico, when Miguel Carrera was in his early 20s, he had an education but no job. The son of farmworkers who harvested corn, beans, and sugarcane in rural Puebla, Carrera graduated from college with a technical degree in agriculture. But the Mexican economy had taken a dive. The scant employment opportunities, Carrera explains, were reserved for those whose families could afford to bribe the right officials — and he wasn't one of them. "I couldn't even earn enough to support myself, much less help my parents," he says. So he took a chance and made his way to the United States.

Carrera never expected to end up addicted to drugs and living on the streets. But one year after he crossed the border, that's exactly where the small-town man found himself. The American dream had turned out to be a nightmare characterized by racial intolerance and 16-hour workdays at substandard wages in a restaurant with an abusive boss who often wouldn't pay him at all. Cocaine and later heroin offered Carrera at least a temporary escape.

Oddly enough, the experience served him well. Ten years later Carrera has helped hundreds of immigrants in similar circumstances turn their lives around — and challenge the injustices that lead to unemployment, homelessness, and despair.

As a project coordinator for the Coalition on Homelessness, Carrera runs Hogares Sin Barreras (Housing Not Borders), a program dedicated to providing assistance to homeless and low-income immigrants and helping them protect their rights.

HSB was established as AYUDA in 1992 by a group of homeless Latino immigrant men — Carrera among them — living at the South of Market Multi-Service Shelter; its goal was to address the dearth of culturally competent social services for homeless immigrants.

"The main obstacle [faced by low-income Latino immigrants] is the high cost of housing," Carrera says. "There's no work, or if there is, it's the hardest work, and it pays very poorly — not enough to pay the rent. The second greatest obstacle is their inability to communicate in English — the fear, the insecurity, the inability to defend oneself. And because they've experienced so much abuse — including by social service providers — people are afraid of seeking help."

It's an experience Carrera knows only too well. And in fact, it was the Spanish-speaking, culturally sensitive staff at AYUDA who helped place Carrera in a drug treatment program in 1995 and eventually provided him with a small stipend. He toiled as a housepainter and construction worker, and in the evenings and on his days off he did outreach work with homeless Latino immigrants in the streets downtown, in shelters, and under the freeway overpass at Cesar Chavez Street and Bayshore Boulevard.

By 1997, AYUDA had become HSB, and Carrera was running the show.

Now Carrera and co-staffers at HSB refer clients to health care providers, battered-women's shelters, drug rehabilitation programs, and legal assistance providers. They help clients find homes — such as low-income housing on Treasure Island and at Shelter Plus Care, a subsidized housing project for homeless people battling drug

addiction and/or infected with HIV that does not require immigration documentation. And they help place candidates in job-training programs.

HSB also works with low-income Latino immigrants as an organizer for social and economic justice, educating them in leadership skills, spearheading campaigns, and speaking at local government hearings and to the media. In one instance HSB helped the largely immigrant, low-income tenants of an 80-unit building in the Mission avoid eviction by organizing their own tenants union.

When asked about cases he's particularly proud of, Carrera remembers a victim of domestic violence who sought HSB's services. Carrera helped place the Bolivian mother of three in La Casa de las Madres, a shelter for abused women, and helped get her accepted into the nursing assistant training program at Arriba Juntos. Four years later, he recounts with a smile, "she's in a stable housing situation, pursuing a nursing degree, and supporting her children on her own."

Another person he's seen progress over the years is a man from El Salvador who was addicted to crack and living on the streets when the Tenderloin Housing Clinic referred him to HSB. The man committed himself to kicking his habit and demonstrated an interest in community work, so Carrera personally trained him for six months. "Now he's working as a case manager at the Tenderloin Housing Clinic," Carrera says. "He's clean. He's taking classes at the Community College of San Francisco, pursuing an education in social work. And he's living with his wife in their own apartment." ❖

If it were an SAT question, it'd look like this: Brooklyn : Manhattan :: _____ : San Francisco. The answer, of course, is Oakland. Both are blue-collar communities overshadowed by their more cosmopolitan neighbors; both have received an influx of artsy types trying to escape said neighboring city's ridiculous housing prices. The difference is that while Brooklyn's formerly tough Williamsburg neighborhood has become a *Vanity Fair*-profiled hipster enclave filled with trendy stores, galleries, and nightlife, downtown Oakland ... well, Oakland in general

about the price of a new novel, you (or a young friend of yours) can own this out-of-print beauty from 1963 or any one of a large selection of vintage books for young people available at **Bibliomania** bookstore. While most antiquarian bookstores devote only a token amount of space, if any, to books for children and teens, Bibliomania provides a large

DOWNTOWN

remains one of the Bay Area's best-kept secrets. Indeed, despite Mayor Jerry Brown's best efforts, it's still the place toward which outsiders are most likely to turn up their noses. This means it retains much of its charm, even if it's a bit shopworn and gritty at times. Oakland's downtown isn't a marketer's wet-dream strip mall of cookie-cutter corporate chain stores just yet — though the recent appearance of the Gap and Men's Wearhouse doesn't bode well for the future. For the time being, downtown Oakland remains rather like San Francisco's Mission District used to be, back when the only people parking in the middle of the street were attending Sunday morning church services: a living, breathing, ungentrified neighborhood where people of many cultures and ethnicities work, shop, and reside. In short, there's a there there after all — and you can reach it by BART.

Best Place to Buy Independent Magazines after Midnight

It's bar time. You and a drinking companion have somewhat amiably "agreed to disagree" about the relative merits of indie publications *The Baffler* and *The Sun*. Exhibits are needed to bolster your arguments, but where to find the latest issues at such an hour? Conveniently positioned just steps away from the 12th Street/City Center BART station, the 94-year-old **De Lauer's Super Newsstand** is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This makes it perfect for that after-hours urge to read the latest of hundreds of magazines, racing forms, Cliff's Notes, and out-of-town newspapers that fill De Lauer's shelves. 1310 Broadway, Oakl. (510) 451-6157.

Best Place to Channel Bukowski While Eating Ham on Rye

A pal of mine turned me on to the delightfully lowbrow **Hofbrau** before we took in one of the Paramount Theatre's classic film series (where \$5 admission gets you a movie, a cartoon, a newsreel, and a prize giveaway). Even the crowds of well-heeled movie buffs in attendance that night couldn't disguise the fact that if curmudgeonly writer Charles Bukowski were still alive and lived in Oakland, this is where he'd hang out. Six bucks (actually \$5.99) buys a hot ham-on-rye sandwich with a side of mashed potatoes and gravy — or similar basic rib-sticking grub served cafeteria style (entrées: \$4–\$7). Dine in the side room, where smoke-darkened cartoon prints of manor life are haphazardly garlanded with plastic vines and fake Tiffany lamps hang from the 22-foot ceiling. The regulars are nothing if not helpful: during a recent rainy-night visit, a would-be patron attempted to sell us his umbrella — twice. 2221 Broadway, Oakl. (510) 444-3891.

Best Place to Buy Vintage Juvenile Literature

Yeah, that Harry Potter is an interesting kid, but wouldn't you really rather know more about *The Amazing Adventures of Peter Grunt: Gentleman Pig of Yatopalachee County, Florida* — *His Thrilling Adventures, His Daring Ideas, His Narrow Escapes?* For

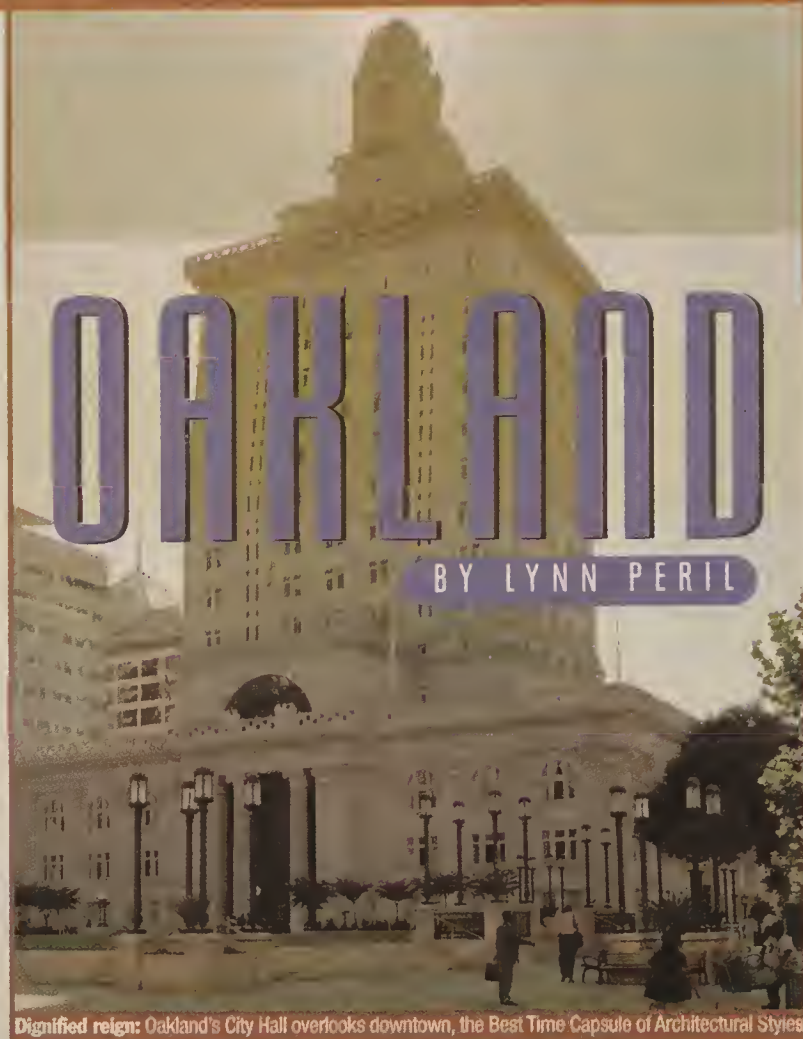
stock. This makes it easy for you to introduce a child to the books you loved as a kid or to unwind from a hard day at the office with *Linda Craig and the Palomino Mystery* (1962; \$16). 1816 Telegraph, Oakl. (510) 835-5733.

Best Vacant Lot with a Rock and Roll History

In the early 1950s Jimmy Drake was just another truck driver turned unsuccessful songwriter, recording demos in the kitchen of his home at **593 West Grand**. But when a well-meaning DJ added a few simple automotive sound effects to one of those demos, Drake (known to posterity by his rock and roll moniker Nervous Norvus) became a bona fide overnight sensation, written up in *Time* and *Life* magazines and invited to appear on *Ed Sullivan* — though legend has it that he was "too shy" to do the show. "Transfusion" features the sounds of skidding tires and crashing metal in a ballad of reckless driving: "Transfusion, transfusion / I'm just a solid mess of contusions / Never never never gonna speed again / Slip the blood to me, Bud." Ghoulish? Perhaps. Catchy? Definitely. It sold half a million copies in the first two weeks after its release in May 1956, reached number eight on the *Billboard* chart, and eventually sold a million copies before falling off the charts after 14 weeks. Norvus recorded several other novelty records before fading from sight (one, "Ape Call," even charted at number 28). Alas, his West Grand Avenue home is long gone, and no plaque marks the site of "Transfusion" 's birth — surely a dreadful oversight. *South side of the 500 block of West Grand Ave., Oakl.*

Best Time Capsule of Architectural Styles

Many cities lose their character and sense of history as older buildings are torn down to make way for "progress" and chain stores. Luckily downtown Oakland features a variety of civic and commercial architectural styles — many of them rubbing shoulders in the **blocks between the 12th and 19th Street BART stations**. The turn of the century is represented by the slice-of-wedding-cake Gothic Cathedral Building (1615 Broadway) and the beaux arts City Hall (1 Frank Ogawa Plaza) — whose clock tower puts Coit Tower's phallic majesty to shame. Meanwhile, the area around the Paramount Theatre (2025 Broadway) features some of the best '20s and '30s deco architecture in the Bay Area, including the magnificent I. Magnin Building (2001 Broadway), the currently-being-renovated Fox Theater (1815 Telegraph), and the lovely cobalt-blue-and-silver Floral Depot building (1900 Telegraph). There's also a satisfying selection of midcentury eclecticism and kitsch, ranging from Bibliomania's grilled facade ornamented with attenuated crowns (1816 Telegraph Avenue),



Dignified reign: Oakland's City Hall overlooks downtown, the Best Time Capsule of Architectural Styles.

the Christian International Church's rectangular slab set off with a spherical clock (1741 Telegraph), and the House of Wigs' crown-topped marquee (1631 Telegraph). *Broadway and Telegraph between 12th and 19th Streets, Oakl.*

Best Jukebox for 40-Year-Old Former Punks Who Want to Gloriously Relive Their Youth

My husband tells me the happiest he's ever seen me (in public, anyway) was nursing a gin and tonic one night at the **Ruby Room** while the Runaways' "Cherry Bomb" blared on the jukebox. Ah, yes, "Cherry Bomb" — what self-respecting 16-year-old punkette circa 1977 didn't love Joan Jett's howl of adolescent bad-girl sexuality? This and many more gems from punk's golden age are available on the Ruby Room's jukebox. Sure, the Ruby Room features DJs spinning all sorts of retro action late into the night, but face it, that's past your bedtime now. Stop in around nine some evening, feed some loose change into the jukebox, and rock out like you're a teenager again. Just be sure to sneak out the door before the whippersnappers arrive. 132 14th St., Oakl. (510) 444-7224.

Best Place to Introduce Your Mom to Downtown Oakland

So your mom is coming to visit Oakland. She's not the type to appreciate the classic 1960s wig-store architecture along Telegraph Avenue, nor are you willing to face the stroller 'n' SUV set crowding the streets and sidewalks of Rockridge. Luckily for you both, there's **Old Oakland**. Contained in a four-block area around Ninth and Washington Streets, Old Oakland features shops, restaurants, cafes, and galleries, all housed in nicely restored Victorian-era buildings. While development continues apace in this part of town, the feeling remains workaday rather than touristy, a nice remembrance of Oakland's earliest roots. *Ninth and Washington Streets, Oakl.* ❖



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MARK FARINA

Shady, velvety downtempo jazz for late nights... King Kooba, Herb Alpert and friends are all on the guest list for this swank after-party mix from SF's Farina.



MUSHROOM JAZZ VOL. 3

13⁹⁸

FILA BRAZILLIA



ANOTHER LATE NIGHT

13⁹⁸

Steve Cobby & Dave Pork bring you their first mix CD - a cohesively schizo blend with primo hits of dub, hip-hop, funk and jazz. Your new favorite mix!

AZEEM



craft classic

13⁹⁸

Oakland emcee Azeem follows up his previous EP "Garage Opera" with a solid indie hip-hop LP. A lyrical poet with clever rhymes and concepts. With Hobo Junction and hot production from DJ Design & DJ Zeph.

**JUMP IN!
the music is
FINE!**

SIGUR RÓS

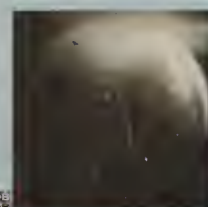


Ágætis byrjun

14⁹⁸

Sweet, stark Arctic soundscapes. Maybe the most beautiful music you will ever hear. Ethereal & hypnotizing - but not new-agey. Highly recommended.

RED HOUSE PAINTERS



OLD RAMON

13⁹⁸

Recorded in '97 and finally released this year - these songs offer their contemplative meditations combining sparse instrumentation with Mark Kozelek's languid yet tortured vocals.

MIXER PRESENTS: MARK FARINA

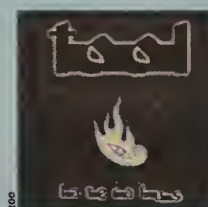


UNITED DJ'S OF AMERICA

12⁹⁸

A re-release of 1998's "Frisko Disco" - jazzy house and - as the original cover says: "68 minutes of subterranean grooves compiled and mixed by SF's legendary house decknician."

TOOL



lateralus

13⁹⁸

Trance-inducing prog-metal, art metal, math rock, genius. Stronger and more focused than their last - while still kicking ass.

SHUGGIE OTIS



INSPIRATION INFORMATION

13⁹⁸

All the hype is correct: this album was from the future and we had to wait until now to comprehend this level of funky soul. Sounded great 25 years ago, sounds better now.

JIM WHITE



NO SUCH PLACE

13⁹⁸

Southern Gothic story-songs filled with troubled souls and rusty Corvairs - all achingly rendered in sepia tone. With production help from Morcheeba and O-Burns Abstract Message.

IN THE MOOD FOR LOVE



SOUNDTRACK

14⁹⁸

Atmospheric mix of Hong Kong noir - you can almost see the neon reflected in shallow rain puddles in narrow streets. Nat King Cole's Latin croonings mesh and flow with '40s Chinese music, creating a lush and layered romance.

GORILLAZ



GORILLAZ

13⁹⁸

Cartoon hip-hop and Saturday AM rock from the coolest animated crew around. Featuring Damon from Blur, Dan the Automator, Del the Funky Homosapien and Sky Edwards of Morcheeba.

Free Gorillaz video with purchase of new CD. (SF store only - while supplies last)

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THEIR FAVORITE MUSIC OF THE YEAR
AND IT'S AVAILABLE NOW IN AN
EASY-TO-READ BOOKLET



MANU CHAO



Former Mano Negra leader's sophomore release brings you fresh, yet groovily familiar tracks in French/Spanish/English that are political while maintaining their wit, depth and rhythm.

PROXIMA ESTACION... ESPERANZA...
13⁹⁸

RADIOHEAD



Disregarding all the hype and backlash, Radiohead pull it off again. Along with Kid A, it's the 2nd half of the most creative and varied recording session of their career.

AMNESIAC
13⁹⁸

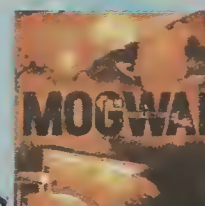
SOFT BOYS



An '80s indie rock cult favorite, now re-released with tons of terrific bonus cuts. It combines '60s folk rock, punk, psychedelia, twisted lyrics, and great songwriting. It launched Robyn Hitchcock on his solo career (and may be his best work.)

UNDERWATER MOONLIGHT
13⁹⁸

MOGWAI



Newest album from the kings of instrumental rock. Fans of Tortoise & Trans Am, bow down. This is comparable to their best - Come on Die Young - though much shorter.

ROCK ACTION
11⁹⁸ CD

BARDO POND



Amazing fourth record from these Philadelphinites. Much healthier sounding than their last album. Lazy day listening. Swirls, shwooshes, submerges you in a sonic bliss of an abyss.

DILATE
11⁹⁸ CD

THE BAY AREA'S
LOWEST PRICES
ON CD'S
ALWAYS!

NICK CAVE AND THE BAD SEEDS



Cave makes beauty seem so easy on these 12 stories delicately crafted on piano. The more you hear this album, the more passionate it becomes. Dark, clever fun with God, love and death.

NO MORE SHALL WE PART
14⁹⁸ CD

JOHN FRUSCIANTE



A sublime surprise from the Chili Pepper guitarist. All instruments and compositions are done by Frusciante and the result is intimate, minimal and touching

TO RECORD ONLY WATER FOR TEN DAYS
14⁹⁸ CD

OLU DARA



From New York, Mississippi born bluesman's latest - songs infused with jazz, blues, R&B, Latin, and African sounds.

NEIGHBORHOODS
14⁹⁸ CD

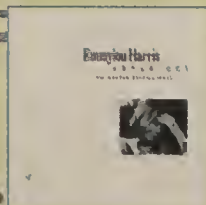
GRAM PARSONS



A great survey of the man who brought country to rock & roll. Covering the International Submarine Band, his time with the Byrds and the Flying Burrito Brothers and with his solo albums from the early 1970s.

ANTHOLOGY: SACRED HEARTS AND FALLEN ANGELS
26⁹⁸ CD BOX SET

EMMYLOU HARRIS



The early years of Emmylou. A great look back to see how she developed into the amazing talent she is today, with a 44-song collection drawn from her 17-year tenure at Warner Bros. and Reprise.

ANTHOLOGY:
THE WARNER/REPRISE YEARS
27⁹⁸ CD BOX SET

TIM BUCKLEY



Contains studio and live trac chronicling this timeless vocal treasure. This 34-song anthology represents the artist's nine-album, nine-year evolution from folk angel to world-weary renegade.

MORNING GLORY:
THE TIM BUCKLEY ANTHOLOGY
26⁹⁸ CD BOX SET

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MOST PASSIONATE CONNOISSEURS OF
ALL MUSICAL EXPLORATIONS.**



BOOTSY COLLINS



Freaky, funky, furry gems spanning the Rubber Band days from 1976-1982 - with "Munchies for Your Love", "Freak to Freak", "Bootzilla" and 22 more booty-movers.

GLORY B Da FUNK'S ON ME: THE BOOTSY COLLINS ANTHOLOGY

26⁹⁸
CD BOX Set

SAMBA SOUL '70!



Brazilians being influenced by the U.S. Black Power Movement and producing some super-funky grooves. This ain't no Bossa Nova. More like "Eu Sou Negro E Sou Proud"

VARIOUS ARTISTS

13⁹⁸
CD

LOS MOCOSOS



These Mission district Latin Rock phenoms show old-school prowess a la Santana and Malo while mixing in an energetic dose of ska, soul, salsa and hip hop. Bilingual lyrics lament the gentrification of the Mission, but in the end they just want to make you dance.

SHADES OF BROWN

13⁹⁸
CD

AUTECHRE



The duo that just keeps pushing the edges of electronic music takes another leap forward. A tremendously challenging album that lies somewhere between organic and mechanical, where beats give way to chaos and back again. Beautiful.

CONFIELD

13⁹⁸
CD

SQUAREPUSHER



Yet again, Squarepusher devours, digests, excretes and reassembles dance music into something else. From the 2-stepishness to extreme noise trickery at the end.

GO PLASTIC

13⁹⁸
CD

**THE BAY AREA'S
SOURCE FOR
MUSICAL
INSPIRATION!**

DJ SERG



A Bay Area classic mix compiled by Berkeley Amoeba's own DJ Serg, this CD explores the best and hard to find underground/indy hip-hop from the Bay in the '90s. A must have for Bay Area fans.

GOLDEN STATE OF MIND

12⁹⁸
CD

WAGONCHRIST

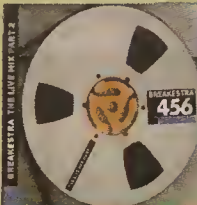


A perfect introduction to Luke Vibert's sample-crazy breakbeat funk. Vibert flies his stoner flag high with snippets of easy listening, hip-hop, spoken word and the kitchen sink, all the while entraining you with dextrous rhythms. -mb

MUSICAL

12⁹⁸
CD

BREAKESTRA



Soulful and funky. Music for all... especially for the b-boys and b-girls. L.A.'s Breakestra may drop some killer funk, but at heart they're a hip-hop band - taking the crate-diggin' craze one step further.

LIVE MIX PART 2

13⁹⁸
CD

AIR



The French duo do not disappoint on their latest - mixing the lush pop of "Moon Safari" with the moody, haunting tunes from "The Virgin Suicides" soundtrack.

10,000Hz LEGEND

13⁹⁸
CD

KINGS OF CONVENIENCE



These boys from Norway sing nice, folkish-type romance songs - kind of like Belle and Sebastian but not so much sugary sweet-pop and more sad, yet not pathetic relationshipy stuff. For Simon & Garfunkel, Elliot Smith, Pedro the Lion likers.

QUIET IS THE NEW LOUD

12⁹⁸
CD

ELO



All we can say is that Jeff Lynne is back! 13 new songs from a master tunesmith, (George Harrison and others sit in) - well worth a listen.

ZOOM

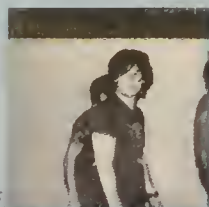
13⁹⁸
CD

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PETE YORN



L.A. singer-songwriter brings you clever lyrics with catchy melodies while still maintaining a hint of his New Jersey cynicism.

MUSIC FOR THE MORNING AFTER

9⁹⁸
CD

TRAVIS



The boys from Travis please us again - not with an earthshattering departure from their last release, but by doing what they do best - creating gorgeous, lilting pop songs to keep you warm in your sweater.

THE INVISIBLE BAND

13⁹⁸
CD

INDIA.ARIE



A standout in the neo-soul sound. Smooth vocals reminiscent of Chaka, with a positive message.

ACOUSTIC SOUL

14⁹⁸
CD

WHISKEYTOWN



Their best album finally sees the light of day a couple years after the fact. Horns and tympani and what-not embellish some of Ryan Adams' most memorable songs. Country, bluegrass & rock that almost anyone can get into.

PNEUMONIA

13⁹⁸
CD

LUCINDA WILLIAMS



Hauntingly beautiful, with tinges of bittersweet and Southern Gothic flavoring the mix. Masterful songwriting with her clear, wistful voice taking you from tent revival stompers to goosebump melancholy.

Live at the Warfield
July 26-27!

ESSENCE

13⁹⁸
CD

**AMOEBA MUSIC
VOTED BEST OF THE BAY
11 YEARS
IN A ROW!**

BURHAN ÖCAL WITH THE ISTANBUL ORIENTAL ENSEMBLE



A heady, luscious blend of hand drums, zither, violin, oud and clannet. The ancient gypsy music that soothed the ears of Ottoman sultans.

CARAVANSERAI

13⁹⁸
CD

**SUPPORT
LOCAL
MUSIC!**

TRICKY



Beautifully diverse, ragga, funk, dark samples and a mixed bag of guests - Anthony Kiedis, Hawkman, Ambersunshower, Cyndi Lauper & others. Tricky returns to his old Maxinquaye neighborhood - finally!

Live August 9th
at the Fillmore!

BLOWBACK

13⁹⁸
CD

MIKER PRESENTS: SCOTT HARDKISS



SF electronic innovator is back after 4 years with a movin' mix - tribal into disco-house into Armand van Helden into...

UNITED DJ'S OF AMERICA

13⁹⁸
CD

ANI DIFRANCO

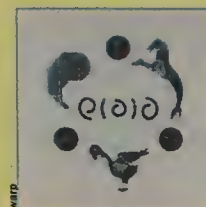


A beautiful double disc of solid, melodic, strong and gorgeous tracks from our favorite D.I.Y. role model. Expanding musically while maintaining her personal and political core.

REVELLING/RECKONING

19⁹⁸
DOUBLE CD

PLAID



Epic and emotional from start to finish, never stale, and full of the rhythmic complexities and quirky melodies we've come to love them for. Anyone who dismisses electronic music as being cold and distant hasn't heard Plaid.

DOUBLE FIGURE

13⁹⁸
CD

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CITY LIFE

GUARDIAN PHOTOGRAPHS BY THOR SWIFT



THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

It's still Utopia to me

By Annalee Newitz

I was raised among mirror-skinned buildings and tidy malls in a suburban city called Irvine. My hometown embodied the 1970s vision of a future Utopia: neat, tasteful rows of duplicate houses punctuated by neat, tasteful clusters of shops. The kids who grew up in Irvine with me knew it was supposed to be Utopian, and therefore came to hate the idea of a perfect society. They became punks and death rockers. They snorted coke, ate acid, chugged cough syrup, drank wine coolers, smoked cigarettes and dope — anything to forget about Utopia. The more philosophical among us became nihilists and anarchists. And the lucky ones like me got out.

But I never forgot about Utopia. I dream about the clean, clean sidewalks of Irvine; I keep seeing it in movies and in the pages of books. The UC Irvine campus was used as a “futuristic” backdrop for a scene in *Battle for the Planet of the Apes* (and a not-so-futuristic scene from *Gleaming the Cube*). The suburban sprawl around Irvine also figured prominently in Philip Dick’s infamous S.F. paranoia novel *A Scanner Darkly*, which is all about the hideousness of middle-class consumerist enclaves, and it makes a cameo in Jean Baudrillard’s whacked pomo theory book *Simulations*, in which Baudrillard postulates the existence of a “simulacrum,” or a thing that is a reproduction without an original. That’s Irvine all over — a place so fake that it isn’t even an imitation of something real.

But like I said, I got out. I fled Irvine’s simulated Utopia for the Bay Area, and especially San Francisco. At 17, I knew San Francisco was home: it was a place where I could be safe, a place where my bizarre ideas and perverted desires and inchoate longing for community would finally come to fruition.

At first I spent hours wandering between bookstores and bars in North Beach, reveling in the city’s beat history and exotic urban landscape. Later, as I spent more time in San Francisco and finally moved here, I discovered other neighborhoods: the Haight, the Castro, the Richmond, and the Mission. The often bewildering disjunctions between each region of the city paradoxically reassured me. Many different kinds of people had come to San Francisco to escape — as political

refugees, as queer orphans, even as disaffected yuppies — and I was certainly not alone. I had joined a community of runaways.

I ran away because, as you may have guessed, Irvine’s “Utopia” was corrupt. It was like thousands of other suburban, exurban, and rural small towns across the country: the outward peace and social consensus of the city masked something hideous. Nobody talked about the boy at my high school who wore makeup and ended up ODing on a bizarre drug concoction. Boys with long hair got beaten up by boys with short hair. My queer friends were so far in the closet that they feigned crushes on the straight kids, many of whom were suffering their own personal hells because their career goals were “wrong” or their taste in music was “creepy.”

Being from a liberal, Jewish family made me a mildly repulsive alien on a good day and a satanic interloper on a bad one. The most common bumper stickers you’d see on the cars cruising an Irvine road were for the Reagan/Bush campaigns or sported a slogan that was some variation on “Jesus Loves You.” At one point a teacher taunted me in front of my junior high English class when I refused to say the Pledge of Allegiance. She ordered me to recite it in front of my schoolmates to prove that I wasn’t “too stupid” to know the words. Nearly every day I would sit in class dreaming about San Francisco, a bizarre, rainy city I had visited many times with my parents. I told myself that I would get there soon. If Allen Ginsberg lived there, I thought, it had to be a good place.

People are fond of saying that nobody is a native of San Francisco. Fact is, lots of us do come from somewhere else — and there’s a reason for that. Many other regions of the country are still unlivable for people who don’t feel at home with traditional values and mainstream life goals. Despite the rocky times and cost-of-living increases here, San Francisco remains a symbol of freedom from conventionality. Hell, it isn’t just a symbol. People here are living, breathing examples of unconventional values rightly understood.

San Francisco is no Utopia, nor does it pretend to be one. Instead it’s a place where social and political experimentation is tolerated, even some-

times encouraged. Refugees from other places come here to start their lives over, to become the artists they’ve always wanted to be, to fuck in public, to create worker-owned cooperatives, to fight for community rights, to hold hands with their sweeties on the street and not get beaten up, to change their sex, to change their religion, to change their stock portfolio, to invent weird new technologies, to watch bespectacled grad students reading Michel Foucault in coffee shops. We come here because the places where we started out offer none of those possibilities.

With social freedom comes danger, of course. San Francisco business interests sometimes run roughshod over local community needs. And there is nothing worse than personal politics in small, nontraditional communities. Although the sexual-minority communities here seem huge to new arrivals, just spend a couple of years in them and you’ll find yourself having first-date conversations about how many ex-lovers you and your dinner companion have in common. Same goes for the alterna-indie-media community, where everyone seems to have met everyone else at Burning Man or Liquid or Qööl or a Media Bistro mixer. Or maybe some underground event whose name is top secret. All the incestuous ingroupiness of the city, coupled with its ridiculously expensive consumer culture, is admittedly annoying and disheartening.

But whenever I think about leaving, I remember Utopia. I think about the long days riding my bike along the smooth, freshly paved streets of Irvine with my friends — and how guys passing in cars would scream “Hippie!” and “Faggot!” at us. I remember the Pledge of Allegiance, which I am still too “stupid” to recite. I remember my friends getting in trouble for distributing their zine on our high school campus. I remember the disapproval, the discomfort, the freakiness of being so obviously different. And then I recall how I used to wear dresses and bleach the dark hair on my arms (girls aren’t supposed to have body hair!) and give myself manicures just so that I wouldn’t be sneered at. It sucked. I’d rather live like a pauper among perverts than go back there.

Fuck Utopia. Give me San Francisco or give me death. ❖



A CLEAN WELL-LIGHTED PLACE FOR BOOKS

Calendar of Events - August

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Friday & Saturday, August 3 & 4

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Christina Schwarz

Monday, August 6 at 7:30 pm

Christina Schwarz's debut novel, *Drowning Ruth*, is a richly drawn family drama that explores the ties that bind sisters together and the forces that tear them apart. A beguiling novel with an element of mystery and romance,

Drowning Ruth is your perfect summer read. It's an Oprah Book Club pick, but we liked it here first.



Marjorie Leet Ford

Tuesday, August 7 at 7:30 pm

San Francisco writer Marjorie Leet Ford's debut novel, *Do Try to Speak as We Do*, introduces us to the trials of an *au pair* to an English family.

Melissa leaves her home in America with grand expectations about what her life will be like in England. When she gets there, however, she discovers that it is not at all what she had hoped.



Debra Ginsberg

Wednesday, August 8 at 7:30 pm

For struggling writer and single mother, Debra Ginsberg, waiting tables was a means of survival for twenty years. *Waiting: The True Confessions of a Waitress*, is the lively, behind-the-scenes account of her experiences told in colorful, irreverent detail. Eating out may never be the same again!



Michael Ruhlman

Thursday, August 9 at 7:30 pm

Celebrated writer Michael Ruhlman brings us two distinctive explorations of passion. *The Soul of a Chef* portrays three unique professional chefs—including Thomas Keller of French Laundry—who undergo grueling circumstances

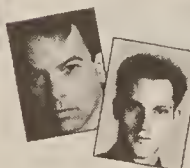
to create exceptional food. The shipbuilders he documents in *Wooden Boats* are also determined to create only the best, forswearing modern technology to maintain an ages-old tradition.



Alice Hoffman

Friday, August 10 at 7:30 pm

ACWLP favorite Alice Hoffman brings us her lyrical new novel, *Blue Diary*, a spellbinding tale about luck and destiny, and how life can change inalterably in an instant. Through her rich ensemble cast, we see the impact of one man's shift in fortune on both his family and the town he loves.



Brad Kessler & John Fulton

Tuesday, August 14 at 7:30 pm

Set in a remote mining community in 1920s West Virginia, *Lick Creek* is Brad Kessler's dramatic first novel. Its fiery young heroine must come to terms with the progress and tragedy that enter her world simultaneously. John Fulton's striking

debut collection, *Retribution*, portrays characters struggling with family, loyalty, love and loss. Pam Houston says Fulton writes "like a man who has lived many lives and has just now decided to tell the truth about them."



Diane di Prima

Wednesday, August 15 at 7:30 pm

Diane di Prima is the most recognizable woman to come out of the Beat Generation.

Recollections of My Life as a Woman: The New York Years is her bountiful new memoir.

Beginning with her childhood as an Italian girl whom nobody expected much from, *Recollections* follows her rise as one of the quintessential members of the burgeoning Bohemian counterculture. Dennis Hopper calls it "a romp of a read!"



Debra Levi Holtz

Thursday, August 16 at 7:30 pm

Debra Levi Holtz gives a fresh perspective to the life of an adopted child in her new memoir, *Of Unknown Origin*. Searching for a sense of identity, Holtz uncovered details about her birthmother, an elusive Ayn Rand devotee, and her adopted father, Jewish mobster Manny Skar. The result is a

fascinating look at all the things we think we know about ourselves and our families—and the things that might be better left unknown.



Christopher Pollock

Tuesday, August 21 at 7:30 pm

Think you know everything about Golden Gate Park? No matter how many times you've visited this local treasure, you still have something to learn from Christopher Pollock's *San Francisco's Golden Gate Park: A Thousand and Seventeen*

Acres of Stories. Full of history, photos and trivia, it will help you enjoy our favorite urban wonderland.

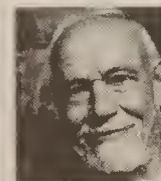


Phil Cousineau

Wednesday, August 22 at 7:30 pm

Phil Cousineau, a long-time student and colleague of Joseph Campbell, shows us that myths influence every aspect of our lives. *Once and Future Myths* is a compelling examination of how myth has affected history, art, cultures,

and individuals. Cousineau is a San Francisco writer and author of *The Hero's Journey*.



Huston Smith

Tuesday, August 28 at 7:30 pm

Huston Smith examines the role of spiritual awareness in an age of consumerism in *Why Religion Matters*. This new book is his passionate manifesto on the modern suffocation of the human spirit, and how the positive role of religion will be essential in restoring that spirit in the twenty-first century.



Mandy Aftel

Wednesday, August 29 at 7:30 pm

Join us for a sensual evening with local writer Mandy Aftel, author of *Essence and Alchemy: A Book of Perfume*. Aftel explores the lost art of perfumery—the ancient, organic tradition that has been eclipsed by synthetic ingredients and corporate designers. Alice Waters calls this seminal book a "sensory awakening." The evening will include a demonstration with the essences.

Join our reading group!

Saturday Morning Book Group

10am - 11:30am



Please join us for coffee, cookies and conversation.

You're welcome to drop in on any meeting.

August 11 with Amy

Cane by Jean Toomer (Norton, \$9.95)

Considered a literary masterpiece of the Harlem Renaissance, *Cane* is a powerful work of innovative fiction evoking black life in the South. Jean Toomer combines poetry, fiction, drama, and folk-song to create this truly unique and unforgettable book.

August 25 with Holly

Bastard Out of Carolina by Dorothy Allison (Plume, \$12.95)

Dorothy Allison's tremendous first novel is a harrowing story of family love and abuse. It's a startling landscape of Southern white-trash poverty, violence, madness and stubborn resiliency narrated by Bone, a young girl who delivers raw truth in beautiful, original language.

Travel, Food, Gardens and Music: The Essence of Summer!

Books by Bill Bryson

Take a grand voyage without leaving the comforts of home with comic genius Bill Bryson as your guide. Start off in the heartland with *The Lost Continent: Travels in Small-Town America*, then move on to the UK with *Notes From a Small Island*, and conquer Europe with *Neither Here Nor There*.



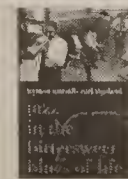
How to Read a French Fry by Russ Parsons

While you're savoring strawberry and rhubarb pie this summer, learn the scientific reason why they make such a tasty combination. *Los Angeles Times* food editor Russ Parsons explains the science behind everything that goes on in the kitchen. This book is packed with fascinating tidbits, tantalizing recipes, cooking tips and provocative trivia. Chemistry lab has never been this much fun!



The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World by Michael Pollan

This utterly original and readable narrative explores the intimately reciprocal relationship between people and plants. Pollan tells the story of apples, potatoes, tulips, and marijuana, illustrating how they have evolved to satisfy humankind's most basic yearnings—and by doing so have made themselves indispensable. This unique bestseller argues that Nature controls us—not the other way around.



Jazz in the Bittersweet Blues of Life by Wynton Marsalis and Carl Vigeland

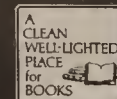
Grab a seat on a jazz septet's tour bus. Carl Vigeland spent five years with Marsalis' septet during the legendary young trumpeter's musical coming-of-age. Set in the studio, on the stage, and in cities and towns across America, this book captures both the mundane and triumphant experiences of life on the road.



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Whether you need a good scrubbin' behind the ears or distraction from your trail of tears, the **Kabuki Springs and Spa** is your best bet for getting back on track. Take the jam between your toes and your great big sack o' woe on down to Japantown's best-kept secret and begin the ritual: get real nekkid, hop in the shower and scrub up with chichi herbal soaps and shampoos. Take one of the clean little butt-towels they give you and head toward the layin' tables. Place sliced cucumbers and a cool washcloth over your eyes and relax to the sounds of the minimalist Japanese ambient music that surrounds you. Then open up those stress-clogged pores with the dry and wet saunas, scrub down with exfoliating sea salts, plunge into the cold pool, and bask in your new, smoother skin. Spend a while in the massive hot tub and feel the calm of sweet release. Repeat the process if you like, or splurge on a massage or facial — it's OK: you deserve it. This little white-porcelain nook of the world is yours. Be careful when exiting, though: it's a big, mean, dirty world out there. And call before you show up: the schedule rotates between men-only, women-only, and clothing-required coed days. 1750 Geary, S.F. (415) 922-6000.

Best Way to Feel Like You're in Reno

Maybe it's those plentiful little lightbulbs that surround its Market Street entrance. Or the smell of foot-long hot dogs wafting about the open doors. Or the sign pleading, "Play Fascination!" Whatever its charm, San Francisco's very own **Fascination Parlor** is one of the few legal ways to (kind of) gamble in the city — and it's more likely to win you a few bucks than the lottery. The game itself is an antique coming-together of Bingo and Skee-Ball: you put a dollar or two down and, cued by a ringing bell, begin rolling a palm-size rubber ball up a ramp and into a five-by-five-foot grid. The first patron (there are usually about six or seven) to complete a straight or diagonal row on the board gets the pot — which is usually enough cash to buy a hot dog and a pack of cigarettes from the "shop" in front. Multiple TVs broadcast soap operas all day, so you can multitask while you play or take a short break from the game's physical rigors. And though you might never get the ball-rolling technique down well enough to

actually win, it's well worth the couple of bucks you'll lose to feel so good being so bad. Fascinating. 1027 Market, S.F. (415) 861-7344.

Best Place Not to Take Your Harley

Don't bother bringing your hog into **Charlie's Place** for a tune-up unless it's a Honda you've got between your legs, 'cause the place isn't called "a haven for old Hondas" for nothing. Charlie O'Hanlon has been working on the Japanese bikes for 10 years now, and he sticks to what he knows best. He has almost a dozen Honda motorcycles of his own, after all, his favorites being those from the '60s, bikes he says are overall the best there are, "made with pride." Specializing in anything and everything Honda, Charlie's Place has new, used, and rare parts and a small, friendly crew of Honda lovers at your service. O'Hanlon himself is a true blessing when it comes to mechanics; he's someone you can trust. There's no sign out front, just a metal sculpture (one of Charlie's other passions) made from cycle parts and, always, a row of what else? Hondas. 3084 17th St., S.F. (415) 255-0316.

Best Proof That Musicians Are Way Overcharged for Rehearsal Spaces

It's a pathetic state of affairs when buildings like the one in Bayview that used to house **Downtown Rehearsal** sit vacant, leaving hundreds of bands with nowhere to practice or slumlorded into taking whatever they can get. It's heart-breaking to think that Downtown, with its clean halls, two loading docks with huge elevators, keypad-protected gated parking (which worked most of the time, anyway), and spacious rooms with working ventilation, is ... gone. Interestingly enough, immediately after Downtown's closure, other rehearsal spaces in the city conveniently decided to raise their rents. Dives like **Rocker Rehearsal**, the ultimate dump of dumps, milk it for all it's worth. With no protected parking, no elevators, do-it-yourself soundproofing required, bathrooms that look like a scene from a post-apocalyptic horror film, rooms choked with paint fumes that never go away (because they butt up against Earl Sheibs next door), a lack of working ceiling fans, and — oh yes — rats, it doesn't get much worse. Site of former **Downtown Rehearsal studios**, 5700 Third St., S.F. (415) 487-1755.

Best Way to See a Cutting-Edge Documentary Once a Month

Worn out your local video store's meager documentary section? Check out **Film Arts Foundation's** monthly 'True Stories' series at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Screening Room. Featuring new documentaries that explore heart-felt issues, the series covers a wide range of topics, with filmmakers and producers often on hand afterward to discuss the films. Brain food in a cozy and comfortable theater — reality-movie lovers will be sated. *Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Screening Room, 701 Mission, S.F. (415) 552-FILM.*

Best Place for a Doughnut Shop

OK, so there's already a doughnut place a few blocks down the street, but we think it'd be a smart idea to move it **right smack next door to Berkeley's all-ages punk club Gilman Street**. On a recent Saturday night during a packed show, while the usual amount of misfits and outcasts were lurking around in front of the warehouse between bands, we witnessed not just one or two but what seemed to be four police cars making the rounds of the adjoining blocks as we walked to the liquor store on San Pablo. Maybe the Berkeley police were having a slow night, but is this much law enforcement really necessary to keep boozers out of the bushes and Mohawked kids from loitering? 924 Gilman, Berk. (510) 525-9926.

Best Roller-Pit Rockers

Roller disco's heyday has come and gone (although there's that one spot in Golden Gate Park that can get pretty hoppin' on Sundays), and the era for roller rockers has arrived. A sideshow to Beneath the Valley of Rock (select Sundays at Paradise Lounge, with raunchy rock and roll bands, cheap booze specials, and hot-rockin' tunes spinning between bands), the **Rock'n'Roller Girls** know how to work those wheels (we're talking old-school quads, not in-lines). Whizzing around the club all night, the Rock'n'Rollers weave through the crowd, somehow managing to avoid slipping up in spilled drinks. When the bands take the stage, you can find them up front doing roller-pit rocker moves, including our favorite, a sort of running in place to the music that puts any pansy roller-boogie move to shame. *Paradise Lounge, 308 11th St., S.F. (415) 861-6906.*

Continued on page 142

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The Booksmith August Author Events

VINCENT BUGLIOSI — FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 7 PM



Vincent Bugliosi's article in the *Nation* about the 2000 election, "None Dare Call It Treason," generated more inquiries than any other article in the magazine's history. In his new book, *The Betrayal of America*, the legendary prosecutor argues that the U.S. Supreme Court unlawfully chose George W. Bush as president of the United States. The results, which Molly Ivins calls "the modern equivalent of *J'accuse*," are troubling and fascinating.

LINDA DYER — MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 7 PM



In *Fictional Teeth*, her debut collection, poet Linda Dyer sorts out the world by pinpointing unexpected connections that help it make sense. Alan Williamson said of this book, "Witty and tough, drawing on science and street argot, [Dyer] at the same time has a feeling for the inner magic of the world, the quirky phrase, in the lineage of Plath or Hopkins."

DAN KURZMAN — TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 7 PM



Disaster is the story of the Great San Francisco Earthquake and Fire of 1906. More riveting than fiction but, incredibly, true, Dan Kurzman's account of the calamitous demise and astonishing resurrection of an American city is also the story of the triumph of a rough-and-tumble people who refused to succumb to nature in its most merciless mood.

WHITLEY STRIEBER — MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 7 PM



"Nothing Human Loves Forever." In *The Hunger*, best selling author Whitley Strieber introduced readers to the lovely, seductive vampire named Miriam Blaylock. Now, acclaimed author, radio personality, and alien abductee returns to the horror genre with *The Last Vampire*, a riveting sequel to his 1981 novel.

AIMEE BENDER — TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 7 PM



Aimee Bender's debut collection, *The Girl in the Flammable Skirt*, showed her to be one of the freshest voices in American fiction. Now, in her first novel, *An Invisible Sign of My Own*, Bender builds on her early promise. "Intelligent and engaging... [A] fanciful and original take on the quietly helter-skelter world that lies within," *The New York Times*.

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see page 157!

BEST OF THE BAY THE NATION'S ORIGINAL



All the amenities: The Best Mysteriously Glamorous Public Rest Room sits tucked away on the sixth floor of Macy's Union Square's north building.

City Life

From page 141

Best Mysteriously Glamorous Public Rest Room

The sixth floor of the north building of Macy's Union Square store is the most mundane of retail zones, a functional floor space full of functional clothes. But when you step into this area's ladies' rest room, wham! — it's like you've taken a transporter ride to Eartha Kitt's Lost Byzantine Powder Room. Blearily dim lights shine on black marble walls, a gold-leaf canopy, and toilet stalls with doors that run from floor to ceiling for peek-proof privacy. It fairly oozes a sense of elegant decay, with elderly fixtures and mirrors that have lost half their silver. Once this part of the building housed the hoity-toity I. Magnin department store (where Kim Novak worked in Vertigo). The opulence of this rest room suggests that this was the floor where customers shopped for fur coats or Paris designer gowns. When I. Magnin closed, next-door Macy's

Continued on page 144

Best Sneaky Name Change

This Outer Mission sandwich shop called itself Tortas Bugs Bunny for almost a year before getting a stern scolding about using a famous cartoon character's name as part of its own. Now its sign reads **Tortas Boos Voni** — just a phonetic half step away from the original. Bugs himself would surely get a chuckle out of this clever evasion of trademark law. Under both names the shop has continued to serve up its enormous tortas "in the style of D.F." — D.F. standing for Distrito Federal or "federal district," the Mexican equivalent to the District of Columbia and the site of Mexico City. Apparently el D.F. is famous for big appetites — just one of these bigger-than-a-burrito sandwiches could easily feed two average chowhounds. 5170 Mission, S.F. (415) 337-5674.

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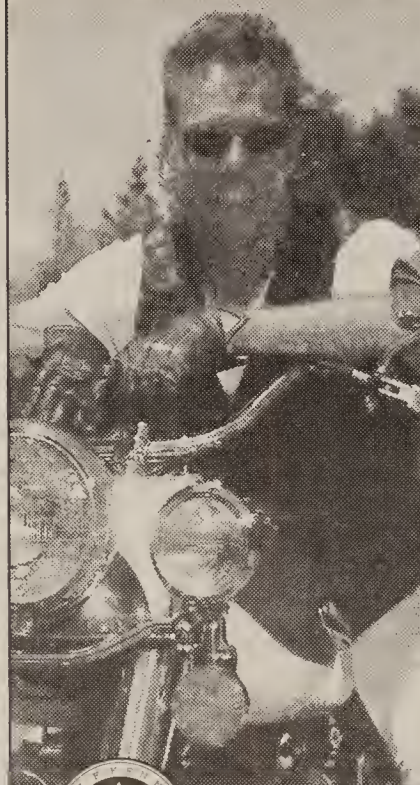
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SEE PAGE 157

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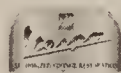
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THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

TWIN PEAKS PROPERTIES

HARRY J. ALEO

REALTOR

EST. 1947



Harry's world: The Republican shrine that fills the windows of Harry Aleo's Twin Peaks Properties in Noe Valley makes that establishment the Best Place to See Startled New Democrats.

City Life

From page 142

eventually engulfed the building, but whether from good sense or cheapness, it left this vintage rest room essentially intact. 170 O'Farrell, S.F. (415) 397-3333.

Best Reason to Love the Excelsior

For years it was almost a cruel joke. The Excelsior, that stretch of Mission Street just a mile beyond the javarama of the Mission District, was the Only Neighborhood in San Francisco with No Real Coffeehouse. Now **Café La Calaca** is making up for locals' years of suffering and latte deprivation. Best of all, La Calaca isn't just some merely adequate cappuccino joint. Instead it's just about the coffeehouse of anyone's dreams: a comfortable, colorful, airy place with sunny morning windows, equally suitable for conversation or solitary journal-filling, attuned to the local cultural mix, and with the friendliest proprietors you're likely to find in any Bay Area café. 4754 Mission, S.F. (415) 586-1270.

Best Not-for-Humans Escalator

One of the goofy pleasures of shopping in those massive big-box retail stores is that you get to toss absolutely everything helter-skelter into one shopping cart. Blue jeans, potting soil, dog food, laundry baskets, and CDs all go into one big eclectic tumble. But the **Target** store at Tanforan Park Shopping Center in San Bruno, occupying what was once an Emporium department store, is a two-story facility. And who wants to wrestle a shopping cart into a claustrophobic freight elevator to get from one floor to another? For cart shoppers' convenience, this store installed a Vermaport, a German-made system that uses two escalator-like tracks to send Target's big red carts gliding serenely up and down. Paralleling them are two tracks of conventional people escalators. 1150 El Camino Real, San Bruno. (650) 827-0171.

Best City Tribute to 'South Park'

Kenny Street in the Excelsior isn't even a real street. It's just a one-block staircase between Mission and London Streets. But at the top of

the flight of steps, half hidden by a street tree, there's an official two-part **city street sign that reads END KENNY**. Did the city really intend to memorialize the cartoon kid who gets killed in every episode of *South Park*? Probably not, since the stairs and sign were in place years before the show went on the air. But it's a pretty good accidental tribute to that unlucky li'l guy. *London and Kenny, between France and Italy, S.F.*

Best Mystery Machine

Even Scooby-Doo and Shaggy would be puzzled by this painted-up VW minivan, so covered with words that it looks like an art car. For years the jack-of-all-trades proprietor of the **S.F. Sword Society** has driven a van around the Outer Mission that serves as a rolling billboard for his multifaceted storefront business. A spray-painted tangle of capital letters announces services including Japanese sword repair, a "ninja diet," and classes in karate, kenjitsu, and shuriken tossing. It's impossible to predict where the van will turn up next, but it's often parked near the Sword Society's headquarters (which is also covered with spray-painted signage). 1226 Geneva, S.F. (415) 334-7260.

Best Place to See Startled New Democrats

A bastion of young parents, Noe Valley is Clinton liberal rather than Nader liberal. Still, you have to admire **Twin Peaks Properties**, Harry Aleo's wacky right-wing storefront. Plastered with Republican slogans and odes to George Bush, the real estate agent's office makes it hard to tell what line of work Aleo's actually in. But it doesn't matter: his true calling is obviously making the left-wing yuppies squirm. (A typical poem reads, "Noe Valley is filled with elation / They love the Bush administration!") Aleo is this year's Twelve Galaxies guy. Alas, his usual cheery ideologue persona chipped recently after a person he described as an "ugly white male" defaced his windows with swastikas. We hope the fun-loving Aleo returns soon, smiling faces and all. 4072 24th St., S.F. (415) 824-0872.

Best Film Festival That Still Caters to the Underground

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Continued on page 149

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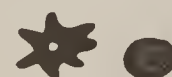
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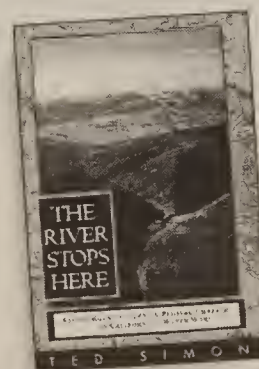
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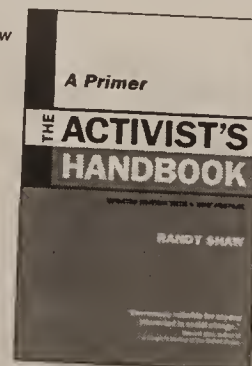
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LOCAL HERO

When leaders of the corporate media empire converged at the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) convention in San Francisco last fall, local activists greeted them with three days' worth of demonstrations. The protesters were equipped with more than placards: many came armed with notepads and pens, video cameras and microphones — and they had set up a Web site to post information that was never going to make it into the mainstream papers or the six o'clock news.

The San Francisco Bay Area Independent Media Center (S.F. IMC) gives voice to those otherwise shut out from the news media. "The point is to generate stories that need to be told," explains "brick," a member of the loose-knit group who asked to be identified only by her Internet name.

One of dozens of IMCs that surfaced following the creation of the original in Seattle, during the now infamous protests against the World Trade Organization, the S.F. IMC began in spring 2000 through the separate but simultaneous efforts of activists on both sides of the Bay Bridge. It was during the organizing efforts for the NAB protests that the two factions joined forces and the local Independent Media Center really gelled.

The timing couldn't have been more appropriate. The NAB — one of the most powerful lobbying groups on Capitol Hill — has been instrumental in sabotaging media antitrust regulations, making a mockery of the public-interest mandate, and undermining public access to broadcast communications.

The S.F. IMC is a living example of everything the NAB fears most: a nonhierarchical collective of activists, void of

any big-business ties, that has taken the media into its own hands. The group of approximately 20 regular volunteers helps produce content in print, photography, audio, and video and post it on the Web site, (sf.indymedia.org), which is updated every two weeks.

The S.F. IMC is essentially a "collective of collectives": many contributors also belong to other activist or independent media organizations, such as Radio Free Berkeley, Whispered Media video collective, *POOR* magazine, Media Alliance, and the Bay Area Alternative Media Network. Information flows freely within the amorphous network, and the S.F. IMC encourages other outlets to redistribute news posted on its site.

One of the local IMC's earliest endeavors was a project on housing, for which members conducted extensive research and created a detailed report titled "The Bay Area's 45 Worst Slumlords, Real Estate Speculators, Gentrification Profiteers and Other Contributors to the Housing Crisis." Thanks to the project, tenants, housing-rights lawyers, and advocates can check on the activities and tactics of investment companies, property managers, developers, law firms, and private landlords. People facing eviction can share their experiences online.

Recent additions to the S.F. IMC site include special-issue pages dedicated to police brutality and the prison industrial complex, forest defense, the energy crisis, and the Free Trade Area of the Americas. The S.F. IMC editorial collective is considering plans for an anonymous police brutality hotline that would allow people to report cases and track particularly troublesome officers using a toll-free phone number.

The site also includes links to relevant information on other sites and to the global IMC network — including sites for more than 50 IMCs, in the Congo, the Czech Republic, Colombia, Israel, and beyond.

The IMC's work has its risks: Residential Builders Association president Joe O'Donoghue, high on the S.F. IMC Housing Project's list of the top 45 worst contributors to displacement in the Bay Area, threatened to sue Media Alliance — one of the housing project initiators — last summer over his inclusion on the list. And on April 21 the FBI served the Seattle IMC with an injunction to hand over all records pertaining to its coverage of the anti-globalization protests in Quebec City during the Summit of the Americas — including logs on everyone who posted to the site.

Although the FBI withdrew its order June 13, the action sent a wave of fear throughout the U.S. IMC network. "Concerns over the government's ability to use Internet technology for surveillance of political activists continue to linger," IMC counsel Nancy Chang of the Center for Constitutional Rights wrote in a Seattle IMC press release on the issue.

The local IMC has taken steps to protect the identity of its contributors. It boasts its own server and does not keep records of the I.P. addresses of those who post or log on to its site. "Being decentralized also helps [confound tracking of individuals involved]," brick explains.

In an era of mega-media mergers and a growing campaign to control Internet content, this crew of tenacious, do-it-yourself media activists is at the front lines of the struggle for diversity in media. ♦

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THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

City Life

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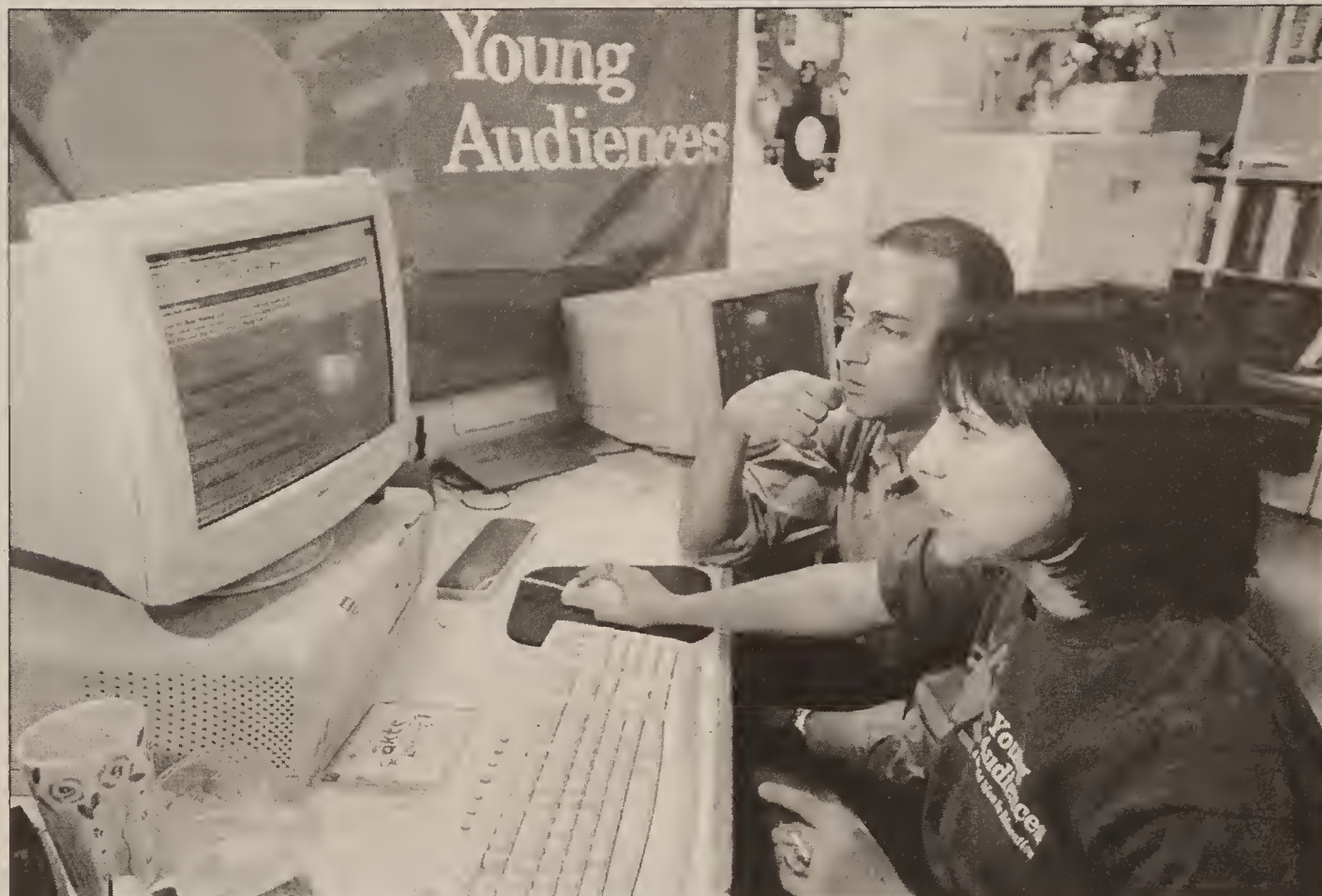
MadCat International Women's Film Festival. For those of you looking for that kind of relief, MadCat delivers. The films are top-notch; they're so creative, in fact, that you wonder why all movies aren't made for the art of it. Offering content that only women can provide, MadCat takes the show on the road each year, but Ariella Ben-Dov started it all in San Francisco. The festival returns to the El Rio Outdoor Cinema in September and runs every Tuesday night. 3158 Mission, S.F. (415) 282-3325.

Best Place to Find a Nanny

We wake at 5 a.m. We comfort, cuddle, cuddle, coerce, soothe, feed, change, read, bathe, and play, and then we go to work. When it's time for the baby to sleep, we follow in close succession. When do we have time for romance? We didn't, and that's why we went to **Parents Place**. A program of Jewish Family and Children's Services, Parents Place provides advice on toilet training, "spirited" children, traveling with tots, and bonding with other moms and dads. It offers classes specifically designed to help busy parents find a nanny. On the bulletin board dedicated to child care, nannies post their background information, and parents post their needs. Somewhere between the two you can find a French-speaking nanny who'll do the laundry, has a car, and will share duties between your family and another. Parents Place will also specially design a workshop for a group of parents at school, the workplace, or a child care center. It even caters to the teen years. 1710 Scott, S.F. (415) 202-7454.

Best Way to Reduce Your Grocery Bill

Ever swallowed the worm at the bottom of a bottle of tequila? Then consider yourself an amateur bug-eater and an honorary member of the **Bay Area Bug-Eating Society**. You'd be surprised by the underlying philosophical problems posed by bug eating. Are you breaking a vegetarian diet? Is frying a live worm humane? Will you get food poisoning? BABES founder Scott Bowers is your go-to person for the food and the thought. If you sign up, you too can take regular field trips to exotic landmarks like Fresno. When you decide to make bug eating a part of your daily routine, you have much more than



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savings to look forward to. For those trying to stay in the zone, caterpillars and termites provide an excellent high-protein, low-carbohydrate option. Remember, too, that a BABES get-together makes for a cozy first date. www.planetescott.com/babes.

Best Luxury Kennel

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Best Place to Be Institutionalized

Ever have one of those days when it's like, "Lock me up and throw away the key"? Psychiatric institutions have a bad rep, yet many provide excellent care to folks who have no other place to go. Major depression knocks more people down than prime-time television would ever let on. If you find yourself at the end of your rope, consider **UC San Francisco's Langley**

Porter Psychiatric Institute, which is consistently among *U.S. News and World Report's* top 10 psychiatric facilities in the nation, and for good reason. The institute provides everything: psychotherapy, art therapy, music therapy, movement therapy, nutritional attention, and, ah yes, medication. Its excellent outpatient clinic can help keep you at your job if your blues don't necessitate a hospital bed, a pool table, and 24-hour supervision. 401 Parnassus, S.F. (415) 476-7430.

Best Place to Volunteer After You've Been Laid Off

Don't let the dot-bomb get you down. After you've posted to FuckedCompany.com and printed your résumé on the back of the officially embossed heavyweight paper once known as your stock certificates, get your lazy ass over to **Compumentor** and go back to work. Compumentor provides software and technology resources to low-income organizations that are certified 501(c)(3). It needs software to help nonprofits run more smoothly and technology resources like your expertise in planning, hardware repair, and LAN administration.

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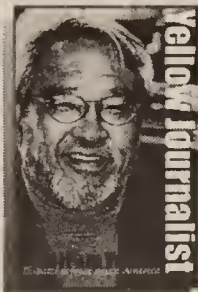
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Best Transportation Innovation

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Continued on page 150



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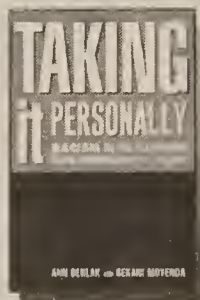
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City Life

From page 149

to carry a big foldout paper schedule all the time? For the tech-enabled, those schedules may be a thing of the past. BART now offers a free **downloadable schedule for Palm-enabled handheld devices** on its Web site. The smartly designed interface makes it easy to plan out your trip and figure out just how long it's going to take. Muni offers a similar service — available for computers, cell phones, pagers, and modem-equipped PDAs — which uses global-positioning satellite technology to tell you when the next train or bus is actually coming. As anyone who's spent an hour shivering at a stop can tell you, that's a major advantage. www.bart.gov, www.sfmuni.com.

Best Place to Lose All Your Quarters

Reading's OK while you wait for your laundry, but playing an Adams Family pinball machine at **Milt's Pinball and Coin-Op Laundry** is better. You can't really go wrong with three plays for \$1 and washing machines for \$1.75. Plus, there's Ms Pac-Man for 25¢. Pretty soon the quarters start disappearing, but it doesn't matter, because Morticia and Gomez are lighting up, and such fantastic pinball games are hard to come by. Since Milt's is open 24 hours, lines aren't usually a problem. Also, there are so many washers and dryers that Saturday

afternoons are crowded but not impossible. More important, there's never a wait to play pinball. 3055 Telegraph, Berk. (510) 549-3305.

Best Grassroots Political Campaign of the Year

Long before California's energy fiasco became part of the daily news formula, **MUD Now**, a community coalition for lower utility bills, was out on the streets, educating the public and campaigning for public power. Last year the group petitioned for a ballot measure that would create a municipal utility district, or MUD, for San Francisco and Brisbane. With a MUD consumers could take control of the local energy system and avoid the rolling blackouts and economic instability that private power customers have seen in California over the past year. The group collected 24,000 signatures to place the MUD measure before the voters, and it fought off repeated attacks from Pacific Gas and Electric and the City Attorney's Office. The measure will be on the November ballot in both cities. www.sfbmud.org.

Best San Francisco-Themed Video Game

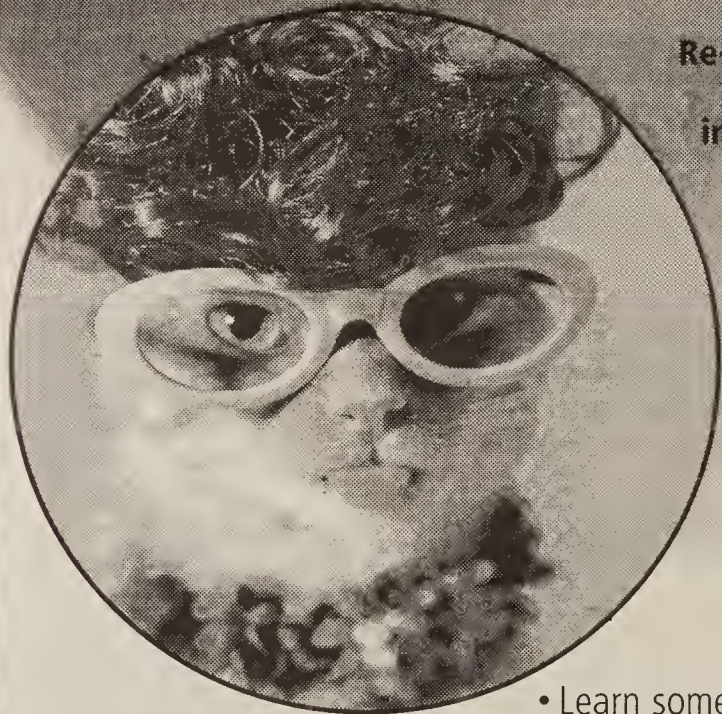
Rolling a 30-foot bowling ball through downtown San Francisco instills alternating feelings of undaunted control and debilitating frustration. Just when you feel like you're getting the hang of such unbridled power, those pesky cable

cars show up. Sure you can crush them, but they inevitably divert the force of your ball, making it impossible to get up California Street. Such are the trials of playing **Hyperbowl**, a fantastic, big-screen video game at the Metreon that involves rolling a trackball in the form of an actual bowling ball. The trackball controls a large, vindictive virtual bowling ball, giving the angry and downtrodden the opportunity to conquer San Francisco by madly rolling, slapping, cursing, and generally abusing the trackball. In response, its steroid-popping on-screen doppelgänger smashes uncontrollably into every obstacle in its path. Do you still feel that rents are too high? Obliterating a cable car with an enormous orb can be very satisfying. Concerned that artists, minorities, and the poor are being poorly treated in this city? Destroy a lovely Financial District building with a symbol of middle-American strength. The only casualty will be your bruised palms. 101 Fourth St., S.F.

Best Weak Gesture toward Conserving Power

Come on, Willie, are you afraid of the dark? We're sitting here with a fear of rolling blackouts so severe that we're sleeping with a nightlight on, and the best you can do to set an example is **switch off a single row of the lights that show off the gold dome atop City Hall**? That minor dimming on top of our

Continued on page 153



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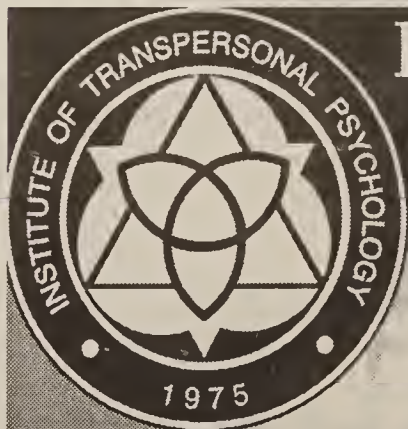
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-Albert Ellis

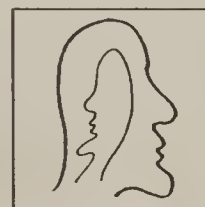
Many people have accepted an imbalance between dedication to work, and personal well-being which has not paid off. Are you one of these people? Then now is the time for you to invest in yourself so that you can:

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THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

City Life

From page 150

already overhyped public center is about as effective at conserving energy as one less candle on a birthday cake. Such weak inspiration to remind us to flip the off-switch hardly sets a good example for the rest of the city, or proves that city government is doing its part to lower utility costs citywide. As long as all those extraneous lights stay on, the city's lame attempt at utility conservation will continue to turn us off.

Best Act of Corporate Citizenship

What do Levi's, the Gap, Chevron, and Bechtel have in common, besides the fact that they're all vehicles by which Satan is colonizing the world in preparation for the coming apocalypse? All of them seem to believe that, despite revenues in the billions, they could use a few million more from San Francisco's city treasury. Several years ago those corporate behemoths and 48 others sued the city, claiming its business-tax system was unconstitutional. In April the Board of Supervisors grudgingly settled the case for some \$80 million. Only 1 of the filthy 52 decided that money might be better used by San Francisco General Hospital or Muni. The day the settlement was approved, **Nordstrom announced it would turn down its half-million-dollar share.** Whether Nordstrom execs are in fact human beings with consciences or just bean counters trying to preserve consumer goodwill is beside the point: They did the right thing, and we should encourage them. Anyone in need of high-quality apparel should be sure to stop at Nordstrom — and give fellow plaintiffs Macy's and Neiman Marcus a miss. *San Francisco Centre, 865 Market, S.F. (415) 243-8500.*

Best Tech Talk Show

Before women took over the Internet population and before grrrls dropped the *i* and added angry *r*'s, a few key women were already entrenched in technology, and we're lucky to have one of the greats with us here in the Bay Area. The voice of technology is not some Silicon Valley CEO worth millions on paper looking for the next free lunch. Listeners of **TechNation: Americans and Technology** tune in to KALW, 91.7 FM every Tuesday at noon to hear the real deal on what's happening from the Valley to the Alley. And

the savvy and delightful Dr. Moira Gunn has just the background, likability, and objectivity to do the job right. Gunn talks to everyone, from industry superstars like Guy Kawasaki to CEOs of stumbling

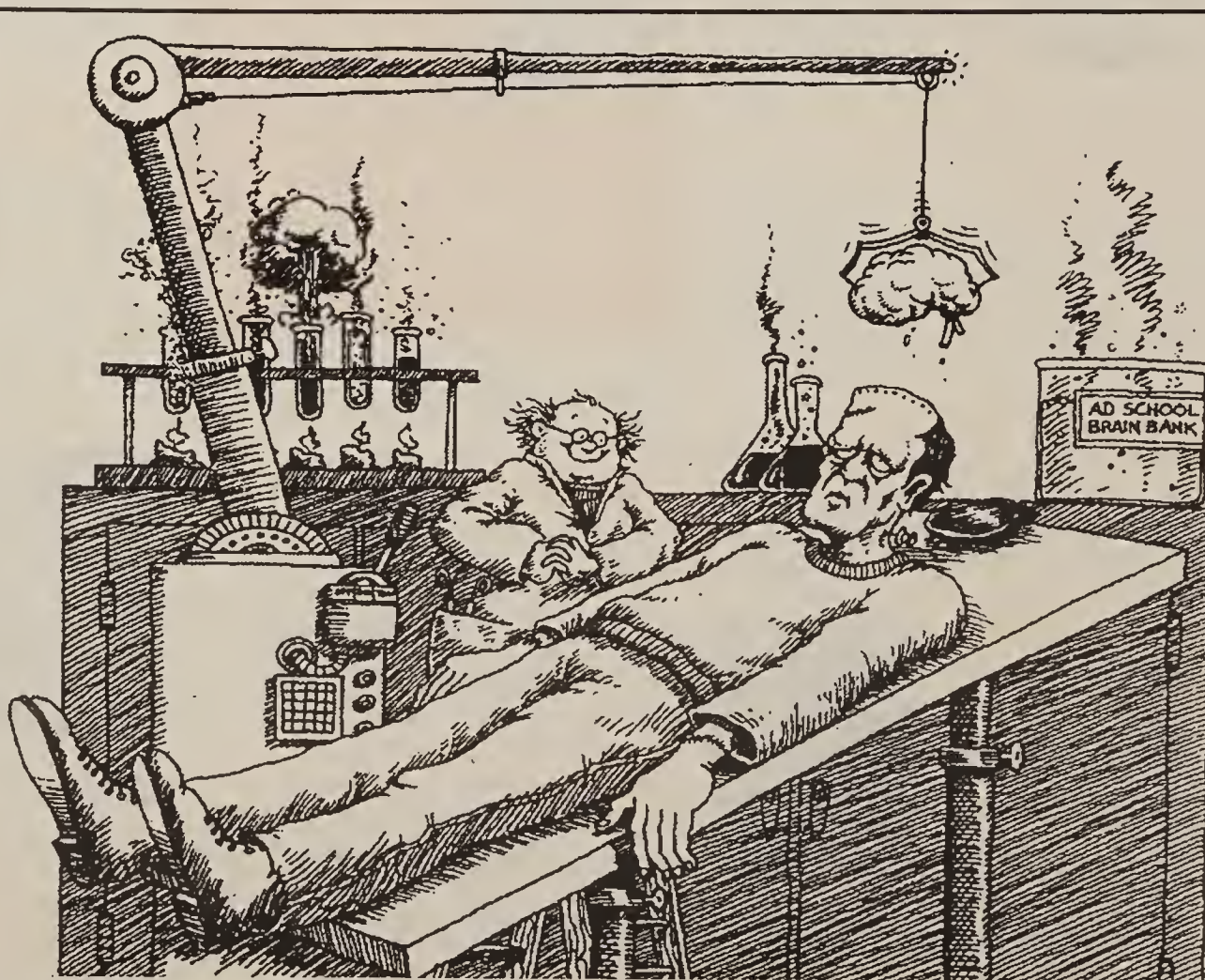
start-ups, and she throws in teachers, futurist thinkers, authors, and historians to round out her pan-technical guest list. And no show is complete without her own brand of been-there, done-that insight;

Gunn is a former NASA scientist and engineer and earned her Ph.D. in mechanical engineering. She's one cool chick. *Tuesdays, noon, KALW, 91.7 FM. www.technation.com.*

Best KALX program

Now, KALX has many great programs, but **DJ Kitty on Friday** offers a great, eclectic mix of

Continued on page 155



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STACEY'S EVENTS



Wednesday, August 1st @ 12:30
LUNCHTIME ENLIGHTENMENT
PRAGITO DOVE

Stressed? Hurried? Join certified hypnotherapist and experienced meditation trainer Pragito Dove as she presents a range of basic to more advanced practices from her new book *Lunchtime Enlightenment*. Pragito focuses on simple, effective exercises that can easily be incorporated into our increasingly active lives.

Thursday, August 2nd @ 12:30
EVOLUTION OF A WRITER

SANDRO MEALLET
EDGEWATER ANGELS

Authentic voices from the poor are rarely heard in American fiction. Sandro Meallet's debut novel is a coming-of-age story told from the perspective of Toomer, a young boy in the harsh projects of San Pedro, California. Toomer witnesses muggings, gang warfare, and drive-by shootings almost daily, but the violence of his world has not crushed his spirit of adventure or hope. *Edgewater Angels* is a vibrant, raw, and touching story told in the unique, inimitable voice of a gifted writer who made it out of the projects himself.

Tuesday, August 7th @ 12:30

CHRISTINE SCHWARZ
DROWNING RUTH

Now available in paperback, Christine Schwarz's debut novel was a stunning success that captured America's attention as a selection of Oprah's Book Club. This suspenseful tale is the story of a family that is devastated by the tragic death of a young mother, and then faced with the mysterious memories of her daughter. Please join us as we celebrate the paperback release of this uniquely American story.

Monday, August 20th @ 12:30

MYSTERY CIRCLE

ROBERT CRAIS
HOSTAGE

The bestselling author of *Demolition Angel* and *L.A. Requiem* is back with a blistering new thriller set in Los Angeles. In *Hostage*, an ex-con and his tagalong brother unknowingly team up with a psychopath one step away from a meltdown. When their afternoon joyride results in a random act of violence, a hostage situation develops that will involve the unwitting criminals in a stand-off between the police and L.A.'s most lethal crime lord. Join us for an exciting afternoon with one of the new masters of suspense.



Tuesday, August 21st @ 12:30
MYSTERY CIRCLE

SHeldon SIEGEL
INCRIMINATING EVIDENCE

San Francisco attorney Sheldon Siegel made a big splash with his debut thriller, *Special Circumstances*. Now he's back with a new case for his savvy fictional legal team of Mike Daley and Rosie Fernandez. After the district attorney is found in a hotel room with the dead body of a male prostitute, Daley and Fernandez put aside their dislike for their



ROBERT CLARK

LOVE AMONG THE RUINS

Weaving together themes of love, idealism, and politics, Robert Clark's beautiful new novel is the story of two teenagers who become lovers in the summer of 1968. Amid the events of that turbulent

time, they run away to create a new life in the wilderness. In their absence, their parents' lives change in unpredictable ways and America itself seems to lose its innocence. *Love Among the Ruins* portrays the intense passion of first love with immediacy and respect, and also evokes the innocence and turbulence of the sixties.

Wednesday, August 8th @ 12:30

client to untangle the web of deception and danger that surrounds the crime. Siegel's blend of danger, courtroom intrigue, and ironic humor makes for another exciting and original legal thriller.

Wednesday, August 22nd @ 12:30

PETER MAGOWAN
SPLASH HIT!

The San Francisco Giants' move to Pacific Bell Park was one of the most memorable events in Bay Area sports history. But the beauty of the new park were preceded by years of planning and construction, all supported by a private funding plan that set the Giants apart from the rest of major league sports teams. *Splash Hit!* celebrates the new park with stories of its construction, fabulous photos, and essays from major sportswriters. Please join Giants President Peter Magowan as he discusses the 2001 season and the making of the team's new home.

Thursday, August 23rd @ 12:30

JOHN BOWE

GIG: AMERICANS TALK ABOUT THEIR JOBS

In the spirit of Studs Terkel's classic study of working Americans, *Working*, John Bowe, Marisa Bowe and Sabin Streeter have collected 120 monologues about people and their jobs. Ranging from the ordinary yet fascinating (flight attendant, funeral director) to the more unusual (crime scene cleaner, supermodel), *Gig* illuminates the working life for a new generation.

Friday, August 24th @ 12:30

OMAR TYREE
JUST SAY NO!

With his last novel, *For the Love of Money*, Omar Tyree continued his transformation from underground phenomenon to mainstream success. His new book, *Just Say No!*, is a hip, energetic story of two friends grappling with sudden success. When John Williams discovers his musical talent and decides to pursue music as a career, he takes his childhood friend Darin along for the ride as his manager. But the two friends discover the pitfalls of fame as Darin falls victim to resentment over John's popularity.

Monday, August 27th @ 12:30

BRUCE SCHULMAN

THE SEVENTIES: THE GREAT SHIFT IN AMERICAN CULTURE, SOCIETY, AND POLITICS

Even before they ended, the 1970s were dismissed as an "in-between" decade, a bad joke wedged between the counterculture movement of the '60s and the Reagan Revolution of the '80s. Cultural historian Bruce Schulman contradicts the conventional wisdom on the "Me Decade" in his new book, *The Seventies*. Schulman argues that these ten years were the center of a profound shift in America's cultural, social, and political balance.

Tuesday, August 28th @ 12:30

KENT NERBURN
ROAD ANGELS

Author Kent Nerburn was feeling stuck in the middle of his life and in the middle of the country. Worried that he and his family needed to escape the harshness of rural Minnesota life, Nerburn set out to re-explore the landscape of his youth by driving down the Pacific Coast from Washington to California. *Road Angels* is the story of Nerburn's physical and spiritual journey, and the characters he met along the way, as he struggled to find his true home.



Wednesday, August 29th @ 12:30

MYSTERY CIRCLE

JOHN MARTELL
BILLY STROBE

San Francisco attorney John Martel is one of America's most acclaimed trial lawyers, as well as an acclaimed writer of legal thrillers. In this masterful new suspense novel, Billy Strobe is a lawyer and ex-con who served time for a stock market scam, and is now free and working to clear the name of his father. But things are not as they seem, and Billy's quest for justice leads him into high-level conspiracies and vicious murders.

AFFILIATE EVENTS

Thursday, August 16th @ 2:30pm

THE COMMONWEALTH CLUB

WALTER M. BORTZ

LIVING LONGER FOR DUMMIES

Dr. Walter Bortz is a specialist in internal medicine and a clinical associate professor of medicine at Stanford University, and he currently serves as the co-chair of the American Medical Association's Task Force on Aging. His insightful approach to aging emphasizes both the quantity and quality of a person's years, through examination of diet, attitude and exercise. Bortz encourages readers to take control of their years rather than letting their years control them. *Please note: This event will take place at the Commonwealth Club, located next door to Stacey's at 595 Market Street, 2nd Floor. For reservations and more information, please call 415-597-6705.*



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City Life

From page 153

everything. She doesn't play solely electronic music, which is a relief. She spins everything from Portuguese hip-hop to the Flaming Lips to French pop to Liz Phair to the Meters. She mixes things up with a little rock here, a little kitsch there, and a lot of funk all around. Her program showcases many local musicians as well. Best of: the elementary school poetry moment, when she reads poems by local schoolchildren. *Fridays, 2-5 p.m., KALX, 90.7 FM.*

Best Campaign to Put the 'walk' Back in 'Sidewalk'

Despite what many people seem to think, our sidewalks weren't designed to serve as parking lots. Parking on the sidewalks robs other people of valuable social space and can be a real danger (not to mention a pain in the ass) for pedestrians and disabled people. Luckily, **Walk San Francisco** is doing something about it. The group has a smart, detailed plan to curb sidewalk parking and improve pedestrian safety. It's gaining political support for its initiatives to keep gas-guzzlers from overrunning our urban space, and it has a great flyer that you can print and slap on cars that are hogging your sidewalk. (415) 358-5545, www.walksf.org.

Best Way to Get Around the Bay Area

Sell your car, ride your bike to work, and join **City CarShare** for your trips to the store or the wine country. Not only is it an environmentally friendly thing to do, but also the little green bugs are flat-out fun to drive. To join, you need a relatively clean driving record and a \$300 for a refundable deposit. After that you pay a \$10 monthly fee, \$2.50 an hour (with a \$25 price cap per 24 hours), and 45¢ a mile. Those fees include gas and insurance, so you can calculate exactly how much City CarShare will cost you up front; there are no repair costs, service fees, or any of the other hidden costs so often associated with renting cars. But City CarShare isn't just about an inexpensive way to get around; its aim is to reduce the number of smog-spewing vehicles on San Francisco's streets. So sell that clunker you move once a week on street-cleaning days and sign up. Who knows: there may even be flowers awaiting you in the bud vase. 410 Jessie, S.F. (415) 995-8588.

Best Place to See a Movie

Let the yokels thrill to the Imax mega-screen and think they've had a hip urban experience. The **Werepad**, the real urban filmgoer's venue of choice, shows better movies in an infinitely cooler environment. Located in a warehouse far from the maddening crowds, the Werepad is headquarters, sound stage, and home to Massacre at Central High Productions. A few nights a month it takes a break from its normal nefarious filming projects and shows movies you won't see at your local rep house. The screening area is done over in a thrift-store space-age bachelor-pad style infinitely funkier than any incarnation of the Red Vic. Patrons sit at tables, sipping beverages and watching such overlooked classics as *Marjoe* and *The Incredible Shrinking Man*, with perhaps a band afterward. All this and extensive free parking, too! 2430 Third St., S.F. (415) 824-7334, www.werepad.com.

Best Christmas Tradition

Forget *The Nutcracker*, "Sing-Along Messiah," and even "Christmas with the Crawfords." Come Thanksgiving we start scanning telephone poles looking for a flyer advertising **Skycastle's annual production of Jesus Christ, Superstar**. Much as we hate Andrew Lloyd Webber, he atoned in advance for many of his future sins and set the gold standard for rock operas with *Superstar*. The show was made to be staged by a bunch of hipsters in some divey South of Market club — in other words, the Skycastle crew. The singers, especially Jesus, Judas, and Mary Magdalene, all kick ass, the band is as sharp as a spike, and every year the dancing girls writhe behind the Son of God in even scantier costumes. And just when you think it can't get any better, there's an audience sing-along of "39 Lashes." Now that's the real holiday spirit. For future events contact Michael A. Xavier at (415) 664-2970.

Best Film Trailer

We've always had a weakness for trailers. We love to make up our minds about three or four films before the main feature starts. But our favorite doesn't do the *Reader's Digest* number on the latest Hollywood atrocity. It's the **Red Vic's 'Don't Smoke/Bring Out Your Plates' trailer**. We've seen it a thousand times, but we still chuckle when the woman smoking the cigarette in that ridiculous holder gets a bucket of water in the face. And that clod dragged off to a nameless fate for

kicking his popcorn bowl under one of those funky couches in the old Red Vic — well, we make sure we always bring out our dishes. 1727 Haight, S.F. (415) 668-3994.

Best Marching Band

If you've seen one funeral procession, you've seen 'em all, we say, but not when said procession is headed by the **Green Street Mortuary Band**. We've followed for blocks just to listen to the Green Streeters' expertly played dirges. These guys are serious musicians — the band is a union job, and their roster includes alumni from bands headed by Stan Kenton, Woody Herman, and Huey Lewis. Although their repertoire is heavy on hymns, like "Holy Holy Holy" and "Amazing Grace," they have been known to make forays into Hayden, Chinese music, and just about anything else the customer might want. Your best chance to catch them is on just about any weekend day in Chinatown — they do about 350 funeral processions a year, fielding bands as large as 40 pieces (they're also available for less doleful gigs). We know who's going to play at our funeral. www.saxlady.com.

Best Residency Requirement for San Francisco Citizenship

Much as we don't like "I've lived here longer than you have" snobbery, we prefer people who make long-term commitments to boomtown carpetbaggers. And we do get annoyed at people whining about how the city was better when they moved here — in 1999. But where to draw the line? For this we turn to our all-time favorite San Franciscan: "Emperor" Joshua Norton. First, all would-be San Franciscans must know who Emperor Norton was. And then they must live in San Francisco as long as Norton did before assuming his title: **nine years, four months**. Satisfy these two conditions and you too can use such phrases as "it used to be better" and "back in the good old days ..." with the facility of the native-born. We'll even knock four months off the residency requirement if you can name Emperor Norton's dogs.

Best Library

We're staunch supporters of public libraries. But this doesn't stop us from loving the **Mechanic's Institute**. Conveniently located in the heart of downtown, the reading rooms are spacious and comfortable and are seldom wracked by disturbances worse than loud snores. The collection is excellent for its size

and, unlike those in some libraries we know, most of the books are in open stacks (great glass-floored ones at that) and don't get thrown away when they're more than five years old. Internet access is good, and the events committee has really beefed up the lecture schedule and added a series of great film screenings. All in all, the member's fee is the best \$60 a library junkie can ever spend. 57 Post, S.F. (415) 421-1750.

Best Labyrinths

Labyrinths were standard features in medieval churches. For centuries, worshipers walked them as symbolic (and cost-effective) substitutes for Holy Land pilgrimages. Stateside this tradition lives on in the **Grace Cathedral labyrinths**, which are "Medieval 11 Circuit Labyrinths," replicas of the one in Chartres Cathedral. Sorry, no walls — the twin labyrinths (one in the nave, one outside the main entrance) are patterns on the ground. There is but one way to walk, and it leads to the center. Puzzled fans may be disappointed, but the point is to contemplate the purgation (walk in), illumination (at center), and union (back out). Church materials may be exaggerating when they promise that "each time you walk the labyrinth, you can become healed and strengthened for your work in the world." But it is soothing to wind your way slowly to the center. 1100 California, S.F. (415) 749-6310.

Best Place to Act like a Thoroughbred

Once upon a time, the west-of-Twin Peaks area was little more than sand dunes, ranches, and horse tracks such as the Ingelside Race Course. Growth and development have long since pushed horse racing out of the city, but the ghost of the Ingelside Race Course lingers in the form of **Urbano Street**, laid out on the bed of the old racetrack. We're not sure where the starting gate was, but if you begin at the corner of De Soto and head counterclockwise, it's about six furlongs to Alviso Street. If you can do it in less than two minutes, they could use you down at Bay Meadows. *Urbano between De Soto and Alviso, S.F.*

Best Traffic Novelty

Of course you go to the Marin Headlands for the stunning views and scenic roads winding through verdant valleys. But no drive through the Golden Gate National Recreation Area is complete without a spin through the **Five Minute Tunnel**, a

quaint relic of gentler times. The tunnel is a narrow bore on Bunker Road connecting East and West Fort Baker. With only a single lane to handle traffic in both directions, five-minute long signals at each end alternate traffic flow from eastbound to westbound. The five-minute wait is perfect for contemplating the natural wonders you have seen — and gives those in front a little peace of mind about not colliding with a red-light runner in mid-bore. *Bunker Road.*

Best Place to Pee in North Beach

Bathrooms without a lock and key are almost scarcer than parking in North Beach. And the tourist-trained eyes of waiters and proprietors in the area are sharp enough to pick up the guilty gait of anyone sneaking in to use the facilities. What's a small-bladdered North Beach visitor to do? Pay a visit to the **San Francisco Art Institute** on Chestnut Street between Leavenworth and Jones Streets. The walk up to the institute, though steep is incomparably lovely, and the school is wide open all day, almost every day. Just about anyone can waltz in, use one of the two clearly marked, clean and sparkling rest rooms, and waltz right back out again. But once you get a look at the institute, you won't want to. Stick around a while and wander through the open exhibit rooms, check out the collection of lefty artsy zines in the library, climb the stairs to the roof of the school, and sit on the stone benches admiring the Mediterranean-esque view. Now isn't that better than trying to sneak past the waiters at the Gold Spike? 800 Chestnut, S.F. (415) 771-7020.

Best Eight-Minute Trip Downtown

One of the great ironies of San Francisco's public transportation system is that, with the slowness and inefficiencies of the buses, it's often possible to walk downtown in the same amount of time it would take to ride the bus. Savvy city travelers go by train instead whenever possible, since whizzing through underground tunnels or on street rails instead of lagging in traffic gets you downtown in half the time. But even that looks pretty crappy when compared to **Muni's new S Shuttle**. Launched in April 2001, the S runs from the Castro to the Embarcadero between 7 and 9:30 a.m. and 3 and 6:40 p.m. It speeds its passengers downtown so fast they barely have time to read Jon Carroll. And maybe best of all, since it goes only from the Castro to the Embarcadero, it's generally empty enough so that everyone gets a seat. No crowding now, kids, there's room for everyone. ❖

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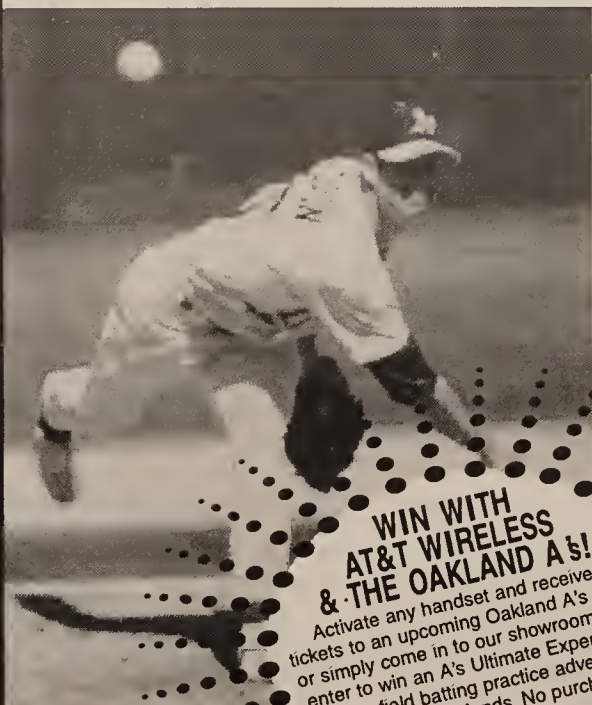
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THE 27TH ANNUAL BEST OF THE BAY

THE NATION'S ORIGINAL

Best places to get dirty

By Mat Honan

Quick question: What — aside from 3,000 miles — separates New York City from San Francisco? Well, to start, drive half an hour outside of San Francisco and you'll find redwood forests, rolling hills, open spaces, and pristine streams. Drive half an hour outside of New York and you'll find New Jersey.

There is a reason why many of our country's great naturalists — from John Muir to David Brower to Ansel Adams — have called the Bay Area home at various points in their lives. We live sandwiched between the Pacific to the west and the Sierras to the east, Big Sur to the south and the North Coast to, well, the north. You don't even have to pick one. It's easy to forget this on Market Street, where wires are always overhead and buildings close you in on every side.

Or, if you're one of a growing number of local residents, in your living room, wearing your boxer shorts at 2 p.m. and staring numbly at your résumé for the 100th time, trying to figure out exactly what it is that distinguishes you from the other legion of unemployed Internet project managers applying for the same job. You gotta get outside, buddy. Get some air, breathe in and out a little. It's depressing indoors these days.

A few weeks ago I sat down and counted all of my friends who had been laid off this year. Twenty names were on the list. Twenty is a pretty short list these days. The entire region is positively bristling with unemployed 26-year-old liberal arts majors sweating into their MBAs. The live-at-work culture that bloomed in the late '90s turned the entire world flaccid and pale. It wasn't supposed to be like this, remember?

You were going to move to California and hang out in the sun all day. But then there was that whole El Niño thing, or when it wasn't raining, it was foggy out and vapid-business-plan.com was hiring for \$70,000 a year plus stock options so what the hell, right? You got to work in a Weezer T-shirt, and you were rich, on paper. Sure, you worked your ass off all week, but you still got up to Tahoe on the weekends, anyway, right?

Except that now ski season is fucking over, bucko, and you're going to have to go out and get yourself a real goddamned job where nobody comes to work on scooters, because they can't afford to splurge on needless toys. Much less lift tickets.

And here's the real kicker: everybody's working long hours these days. If you do get another job, you'll be there all damn day, and they aren't going to pay you any extra for it, just like at your old

dot-com job. But you can forget about those massages. Some things about the new economy took; others, well, welcome to San Francisco V 2.0.0.1. You'll find it doesn't have some of the bells and whistles associated with previous versions.

So take that six-week severance package and get out now, while you still can. You're going to be back at it for the Man again before you know it.

Get out

San Francisco is expensive. Camping is cheap; take advantage of it. You can get a sleeping bag and tent for under \$200 that will, thanks to our mild if foggy weather, allow you to camp comfortably outside nine months out of the year. Campsites on public land typically run somewhere between \$35 and free. State parks, national parks, and private campsites are fine if you're just looking to escape the city for a weekend. But if you really want to get away from it all, you need to find a trailhead and strike out on your own to a place where Firestone fears to tread.

While many head to the Sierras for solace, just as close and half as crowded is the Ventana Wilderness, a big piece of U.S. Forest Service land to the south in Big Sur. Backpacking in means that your campy neighbors with the charcoal grill and Destiny's Child on the stereo and the PT Cruiser that stays running so the cell phone can charge up, and, hell, the Razor scooter (yes, they've even infected campsites these days) won't be anywhere within ear- or gunshot. The latter of which is sometimes unfortunate.

Ventana offers spectacular mountain vistas, streamside trails unmolested by littering louts, and relatively warm days in December when you need to get your camp on and the Sierras are snowpacked. First-timers might want to take the 10-mile trail (which starts at Big Sur State Park) to Sykes Hot Springs; there are great campsites along the way, and at the end is a relaxing pool where you can get nekkid and soak your bones without fear that some guy might sidle up next to you and start jerking off.

In the East Bay you'll find rolling hills, panoramic views of the bay, and sunshine. Loads and loads of sunshine. You know those days when you wake up and it's sort of sunny out, but the wind's blowing and it's just a little too chilly to chance short sleeves? The next time you have one of those days, throw your lunch in a bag and head over to Tilden Park in the East Bay. Or take your skateboard on BART to the Fruitvale station and

check out Alameda's new skate park. It'll be gorgeous. Trust me. What the East Bay lacks in ocean, it makes up for in warm, sunny weather. What's more, one of the finest courses on the PDGA tour — that's the Professional Disc Golfing Association, of course — is in Berkeley. And you thought it was just a stoner sport. These people are professionals.

Or stay in

Say you're into water sports? (No, not that kind, silly. You can read about those over in the Love and Sex section. This is the outdoors guide, remember?) It's easy to forget, what with Santa Cruz, Half Moon Bay, and Mavericks just down the road, that one of the best surf spots in the continental United States is right here in San Francisco: Ocean Beach. It's also dandy for running, flying kites, building sand castles, and strolling contemplatively along the water's edge whilst staring at braver folk bobbing up and down in the Pacific as the sun sets and the occasional seal sticks a head up and, hey, yeah. So San Francisco's not so bad right now after all.

And in odd little pockets all over the city, people are playing all sorts of odd little games that you might not even know existed. Geocaching enthusiasts are, this very minute, prowling the streets, parks, and hills, looking for log books. Handheld GPS devices: they're not just for dorks anymore. Well, OK, maybe they are. But look at all the other fun things geeks discovered that later became mainstream: indie rock, the Internet, electricity. Beneath the streets and high above us urban explorers are seeking out hidden passages through the city's corridors.

But even at Mission and 16th Streets, even in the heart of the city, the outdoors thrives on bicycles and skateboards and between the cracks in the concrete. It creeps along the streets, deviously, as groups like SLUG pepper the city with hidden garden lots and Friends of the Urban Forest jars good citizens from their cups of coffee with the thought "Wait. Was that tree there yesterday?" Get your hands dirty. Skin your knees. Ride around the city with the San Francisco Bike Coalition; they have a Web site at www.sfbike.org with a calendar of public rides. Or just head to Justin Herman Plaza at 5:30 p.m. on the last Friday of the month for Critical Mass. There are plenty of groups to help you out if you don't know how to get started.

Oh. Did we mention Golden Gate Park? You should look into that, too. It's kind of pretty. ♦



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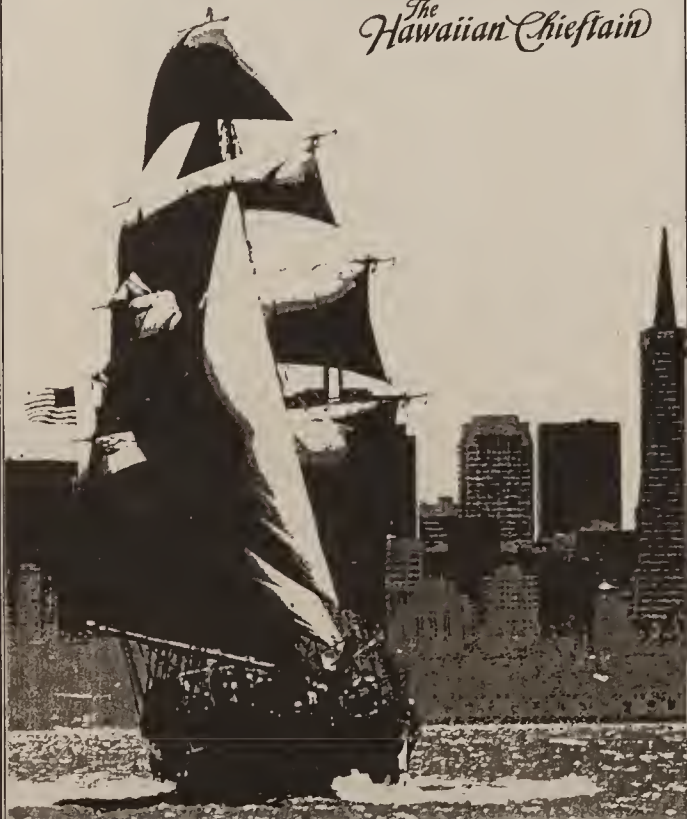
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People's park: Cayuga Playground's urban wilderness is the Best Folk-Art Garden in a City Park.

Best Place for Hodads to Meet Other Hodads

So you want to be a surfer but are afraid to put a toe in the relentless rip currents at Ocean Beach? The closest hot spot for beginners to feel comfortable is **Linda Mar**, the beach by Taco Bell off Highway 1 in Pacifica, less than half an hour's drive from the city. A major hodad haunt, the north end of the beach (called the "kiddie pool" by a friend of ours) is always loaded with beginning bumbler and flying soft-tops. The sucky thing is that the waves here aren't the easiest to learn on: the water is rough, and it's hard to get out; many a wanna-be surfer paddles relentlessly only to get bashed over and over by the incoming surf. But, cow-abunga, at least you won't be alone in your quest to ride, ride, ride the wild white water. Check out www.pacificwaverider.com/mar for an excellent daily surf report. *Off Highway 1, Pacifica.*

Best Folk-Art Garden in a City Park

Starting with a bleak wedge of urban parkland under the BART pylons in the Outer Mission, city gardener Demitrio Bracerros has turned **Cayuga Playground** into a fantastic, unexpected garden spot that rivals better-known folk-art environments like Rev. Howard Finster's Paradise Garden in Georgia. In 15 years of work he has surrounded the park's ball field, tennis court, and recreation building with lush flower beds, Dr. Seuss topiaries, and meditative walking trails. These trails are the park's signature feature: winding pathways that lead into dreamlike shrubby tunnels, marked by twiggy Adirondack benches, fence railings, and trellises made from fallen branches and logs. Along with every other nook and cranny of the park, these trails are decorated with Bracerros's rough-hewn stump and log carvings of dinosaurs, celebrities, abstract shapes, and a sort of tiki/totem that seems to be his favorite motif.

Most folk-art environments pile detail upon detail until they overwhelm the viewer's senses; this little green world is a serene one, where plants and art work as equal partners, sensitively combined and balanced for a harmonious effect. *Cayuga and Naglee, S.F. (415) 337-4714.*

Best Multi-Event Endurance Challenge

Alcatraz Island is well known for the 36 men who tried to swim from it to freedom and the countless others who wished they'd tried. Supposedly none of the inmates ever made it to land; 31 were caught, killed, or drowned. Five are still missing. But for the last eight years, thousands of women and men have completed the **June Escape from Alcatraz Triathlon**. Chances are they would have earned escaped-convict status, as they not only swam to shore but covered another 26 miles on bicycles and in running shoes. It is quite a feat to complete the challenge today, but who knows what the Birdman might have been able to do with a wet suit. www.tricalifornia.com/alcatraz.

Best Place to Have Your Rock-Balancing Skills Appreciated

On May 6, it was official. The new Crissy Field made its first public appearance. It took five years to turn an army storage space into a national park, but shortly thereafter revelers transformed its craggy beach into a **mini-Stonehenge**, a rock-balancing exhibit unique on this side of the Atlantic. Park rangers won't take credit for the sculptures; they claim not to know who piled the first pebbles. We've become rock-pile groupies — casually, of course. We walk the promenade to the base of the Golden Gate Bridge and covertly glance in the direction of the monuments. After all, what might be a revolution by the under-the-age-of-11 crowd could also be an achievement comparable to the mighty crop circle.

Between the Palace of Fine Arts and Fort Point, S.F. www.crissyfield.org.

Best Place to Get Your Om On

Sure, you can do yoga at the gym. But when you need exercise not just for the body but for the spirit as well, the **Mindful Body Yoga Studio** is a chakra-balancing oasis. The studio offers classes catering to all experience levels — from Virabhadrasana virgins to those whose bodies and spirits seem to follow completely different rules of gravity from those of the rest of the world. This, plus an arsenal of massage and bodywork, special workshops, a Saturday meditation class, and master classes led by nationally known yoga instructors, will give you more than just tiny thighs, washboard abs, and a great ass. After all, there is more to your life than a physical shell, isn't there? Isn't there?! 2876 California, S.F. (415) 931-2639.

Best Summit and Soak

If you think celery and peanut butter is good, try this combination: climb the majestic **Mount St. Helena** at the northern end of Napa Valley, work up a healthy sweat, and then coast down the mountain to the **Calistoga Spa Hot Springs**, where you can soak your tired bones in three welcoming mineral pools. The mountain offers spectacular views of the entire Bay Area, but since it's a good way from the metropolitan area, the land looks sparsely populated. San Francisco is little more than a small bump, and the bridges seem to be made of thread. The land shines through in all its natural beauty, assuming, of course, you're not standing in a cloud. Since the mountain rises to more than 4,300 feet, make sure to check the weather before you go. The elevation will allow you to keep your goal in mind: not the summit but the pools below. There's the classic 83-degree swimming pool, a womblike 100-degree tub, and the delicious warmth of the 105-degree hot pool. To round it all off, the spa has a steam bath for variety's sake, and in case you didn't get properly pumped on the hike, there is a small weight room. It gets crowded, but later in the day the crowds thin out. Plus, after 7 p.m. the price drops to a reasonable \$7. 1006 Washington, Calistoga. (707) 942-6269.

Best Place Not to Look for Hot Action in the Bushes

Riding a bike through Golden Gate Park is always an adventure, what with the endless paths leading to hidden surprises — bison, waterfalls, the discovery that grown-ups like to play with remote-controlled toy sailboats on tiny manmade ponds, as well as one of our favorites, the questionable activities by

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the **Dutch windmill**. Feeling the urge to revisit some voyeuristic tendencies we used to, ahem, enjoy, we ventured over to the windmill while on a recent Sunday cycle. Shockingly, we found that the area has gotten quite a manicure. Was it only a few years back that the tiny path through the trees was packed with guys enjoying ... nature? It was now just a desolate walkway with hardly anyone in sight. The quiet paths revealed lots of open sky, the shrubbery was sparse, and trees had been trimmed to death. Noticing only a few meandering men, we wondered if we were there on a bad day, or if the bushwhacking lawn job, most likely part of Willie's actions to clean up Golden Gate Park, had dried up what was once a hotbed of a hang-out. Guess we could have asked the lone young man sitting on a log reading a novel, but we didn't want to disturb him. *Lincoln at Great Highway, S.F.*

Best Cathartic Purge with Rhythm

Nothing relieves stress better than gripping large wooden sticks in your hands and beating the crap out of a giant drum while screaming your head off to boot. While in most instances in life this sort of behavior is frowned on, at **San Francisco Taiko Dojo**, the oldest Japanese drumming outfit in the United States, this invigorating outpour is de rigueur. Envisioning the head of the boss, landlord, shrink, or loved one who is driving you crazy as the center drum when you play is better therapy than years of analysis and an entire bottle of Prozac. Oh, and sometimes it sounds really good, too. Beginner's classes are the first two Tuesdays of the month at the Buddhist Church of San Francisco. 1881 Pine, S.F. (415) 92-TAIKO.

Best Biking Community

The term **gutter bunny** refers to cyclists who ride on the side of the street. But hanging with the **Gutter Bunnies** makes you feel like you've got the whole road to yourself. They make you warm and fuzzy even in cold weather. Most bunnies are members of the S.F. Cycling Connection listserv and participate in the AIDS Vaccine or California AIDS rides. If you'd like to become a bunny, catch them on one of the training rides posted on their Web site. There's no bunny like a gutter bunny. www.gutterbunnies.com.

Best Place to Go on a Windy Day

Why let windsurfers have all the fun? Go fly a kite. Kick off your next windy Saturday morning at **Free as a Bird**, where you can procure kites of all stripes — sport kites, box kites, plain old kites like your daddy used to fly. Owner Jeffrey Fletcher also works the

counter, and he'll show you how to use that new two-lined sport kite thingie before you take it out to Ocean Beach. Once you've got the basics down, get set to dip, dive, and spin with the big boys. One word of advice, however: Try not to crash your kite into passersby along the beach. Believe it or not, those plastic and nylon contraptions hurt like hell when they come down on somebody, and people tend not to take it well when blindsided on the noggin by a wayward kite. Trust us. And when you become a wind-loving pro and kites no longer do it for you, go back to Free as a Bird for paragliding instructions. Go soar. 3620 Wawona, S.F. (415) 665-4359.

Best Place to Spend a Morning Coming Down off of Mind-Altering Chemicals

Why spend Sunday morning waiting in line? Rather than spend your "downtime" in a time warp to 1996 with sweaty, smelly meth addicts, go west, young dancer, and get in touch with your own damn self instead. **Sutro Heights Park**, the remnants of the elaborate gardens of Adolf Sutro (the same guy who brought you the baths), has an unbelievable view of the ocean, and you can get there (or close enough) on the bus. And even without a light show the park is still plenty trippy, with statuary lions guarding the entrance and spectacular, vertigo-inducing views of the baths below. You won't get to watch the sunrise, because, well, because we're on the West Coast. But in this park's seclusion you can spend a quiet moment alone discovering, or rediscovering, that we're all just tiny little molecules floating

Continued on page 162



Ride on: Members of the Gutter Bunnies, the Best Biking Community, whiz along Arguello Street.



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Outdoors and Sports

From page 161

in the big bathtub of life, dude. *Point Lobos and 48th Street, S.F.*

Best Place to Pick Up Your Spare

We hate those pesky corner-pin spares. Too many times, we've watched helplessly as our ball has sailed wide or rolled into the gutter at the last moment. This is why we love the **Presidio Bowl** so. On certain lanes the gutters are so "lively" that gutter balls bounce back into the lane. We've seen a "gutter" ball take out as many as five pins. That seven- or ten-pin doesn't have a chance, not with shrewd Presidio Bowl vets aiming at the gutter instead of the pin. We understand the official rules frown on this sort of thing, but the automatic scorekeeper calls it a spare, and so do we. *Presidio, Montgomery and Moraga, S.F. (415) 561-2695.*

Best Place for Lawn Bowling

John Xavier, a member of the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club, makes an astute observation about the merits and appeal of lawn bowling. "It's similar to golf," he says, "except we don't bowl with a golf club, we roll the ball." Indeed. The **three courts in Golden Gate Park**, managed by the LBC (you must be a member to use the courts; \$85 annual fee), host a variety of social events and daily games. White attire is required on weekends and for tournaments. Lessons are free for members, but it's BYOV (the V is for visor). *Bowling Green Drive, Golden Gate Park, S.F. (415) 753-9298.*

Best Place to See Dogs in Capes

No one seems to know who started **Pug Sunday in Alta Plaza Park**, and indeed, most people who begin attending stumbled on it just as we did — by meandering through the park one Sunday afternoon and suddenly coming across a bizarre scene: scores, possibly even hundreds, of pugs capering

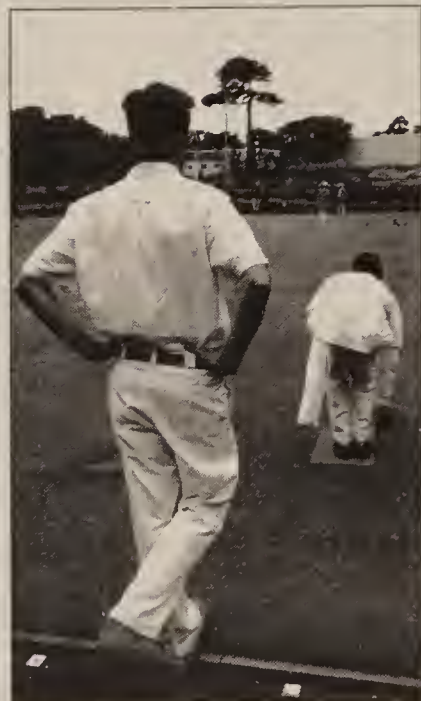
around a similar-size crowd of owners like so many runaway pigs. Owners drive from as far away as San Jose and Santa Cruz to get to Pug Sunday, which occurs the first Sunday of the month from about 2:15 until 4 p.m. The legions of virtually identical playful bug-eyed pugs, known show-offs, chase toys and one another through the crowd, leaping over obstacles and madly licking anyone who'll stop to pet them like some kind of crazed clone circus. The variety of superhero costumes, tiaras, T-shirts, and other apparel draped on many dogs by kitschy owners only adds to the spectacle. *Clay between Scott and Steiner, S.F.*

Best Place to Snigger at Nine-to-Five Wage Slaves

Those agonizing over dot-com jobs lost are missing the point: San Francisco offers a variety of pleasures for the jobless or alternatively employed. Sure, it was nice for a while being able to afford that really nice bottle of Barbera at Mecca, but whether you've been thrown out of the nine-to-five world by choice or by force, you can still appreciate myriad perks unavailable to those locked up in offices all day. Short grocery-store and bank lines, long walks down wide sidewalks and — by God, have you been outside lately? — stupendous weather. But why enjoy that great weather all alone when you can share it with old friends? Old friends whom, in fact, you used to spend a great deal of time with when you were inching down the highway to work in Silicon Valley. Visit the **Benches**, a minuscule park on San Bruno at the end of 18th Street, any weekday morning between seven and nine. Bring some breakfast, sit in the sunshine, breathe in your freedom. Then walk a few steps to the pedestrian bridge that overlooks 101, lean over to watch the bumper-to-bumper action, and tell corporate America to kiss your ass. *San Bruno and 18th Streets, S.F.*

Best One-Block Walk Through Springtime in San Francisco

Most of the year **Carmelita Street**, a one-block alley linking Duboce Park to Waller Street, is an unprepossessing little lane, nice enough, with its families and one-story Victorians, but hardly a sight to show visiting friends. That is, unless



Grassy roll: San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club member James Nestor, left, and aspiring member Steve Barretto work the green at Bowling Green Drive in Golden Gate Park, the Best Place for Lawn Bowling.

you happen to walk down Carmelita on just the right day in late April, a day when the cherry trees lining the block have transmogrified from rather staid jumped-up shrubs to an explosion of pale pink blossoms. Time your Carmelita excursion just right and you'll have an S.F. feast for the senses: the setting sun slanting over idyllic tableaux of happy dogs playing in the park, luscious springtime weather, and everywhere the frilled, exuberantly pink blossoms framing the view. A few weeks later, when May arrives, you can bring treasured sweeties for a stroll down the lane; should you stop to kiss beneath the floral canopy the wind will blow a romantic rain of fading pale pink blossoms on your heads. *Carmelita between Duboce and Waller, S.F.*

Best Source for Dog-Walk Ideas

The formerly dog-friendly Bay Area has gotten a mite chillier of late to canine companions. Coffee shops and video stores that once welcomed pooches are putting up signs to keep them out, while areas that once winked at leash-free dog walking (Baker Beach, for one) now enforce leash laws. Stumped for a spot to take your pup? The **Bark**, the Berkeley-based highbrow literary quarterly about dogs, always includes at least one feature on dog-suitable locations, be they swimmable rivers, off-leash parks, or hotels that accept dogs. Sometimes the locales are well, local; other times getting there requires



Au printemps: Enjoy fragrant jasmine, Duboce Park, and houses that give the Painted Ladies a run for their money on Carmelita Street, the Best One-Block Walk Through Springtime in San Francisco.

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more travel. Perhaps the *Bark's* impeccable taste may inspire a road trip with a very happy dog hanging his head out the car window. 2810 Eighth St., Berk. (510) 227-5639, www.thebark.com.

Best Park Nobody Knows Is There

If you're not clued in, you may imagine **Pioneer Park** is just some nice grassland placed to give those spiraling around the ascent to Coit Tower something nice to look at while waiting for a parking spot. Far from it. Pioneer Park is alive and functioning almost as a private park for those living nearby since it's so forgotten. But the little park, which is almost 60 years older than Coit Tower, is in reality an important site of San Francisco history. It was the spot where John Montgomery, who stole Yerba Buena from the Mexicans, erected a signal station and fort for the United States, and where gold rush settlers would go to sight a new ship, especially if it brought mail. Yet now Pioneer Park is almost forgotten despite its spectacular views. Neighbors and concerned citizens are working to make the park more visitor-friendly, cementing plans to provide bird and butterfly habitats and wheelchair-friendly sitting areas in the park. The best way to get to know Pioneer Park is to attend one of the work parties, held the second Saturday of the month. Meet fellow volunteers at 9 a.m. at the statue of Columbus in the parking lot to weed, plant, water, and express your civic pride with the crowd of locals who show up. *Kearny between Filbert and Lombard, S.F.*

Best Place for Less-Than-Buffer People to Work Out

In other cities the gym is a place where the ordinary and the drooping go to



Heavy metal: Indulge your inner destructionist at Ace Auto, the Best Place in San Francisco to Watch Cars Get Crushed.

sweat out a few minutes on the StairMaster or push some weight around. But in San Francisco, where the natives know a thing or two about healthy lifestyles and leaving a pretty corpse, gyms tend to function more as posing palaces, pickup spots, and social intercourse for those who look beautiful in a belly shirt. This can leave the less-than-buff somewhat reluctant to sign up for a tour of duty at a gym in the Marina or the Castro. Instead, try the facilities at **Valencia Street Muscle** on Valencia Street. The gym is littered with neighborhood punk rockers, Latinos and Latinas, thick-necked muscle men, big-thighed office workers, and others striving toward perfection but not quite there yet. And though the machines may not be as new and shiny as the ones you'll find at 24 Hour Fitness, they're also a lot less crowded. Sign a year's contract and monthly membership is only \$35. 333 Valencia, S.F. (415) 626-8360.

Best Outdoor Sculpture

The **mangled metal sculpture** on Seventh Street near Bryant isn't pretty. And that's what makes it particularly fitting that the piece of art is on one side of the city's Hall of Justice. The odd angles and metal pipes that seem to have been abruptly sawed off are the visual equivalent of a legal system gone awry — the horrible confluence of disorder, unfairness, and pain. *Seventh Street at Bryant, S.F.*

Best Guerrilla/Disorganized Sporting Activity

Balls fly, knees collide, leather snaps: anarchy in the USA? Every Sunday a group of punks, freaks, and other vagabonds happens to show up at the same time and the same place. They meet, greet, and play a **great game of ball** (without keeping score). Perfect for the insecure amateur *futbolista* and/or the lonely punk kid. Be careful of players with steel-toed boots, or just make sure they're on your team. *Seventh Avenue and Lincoln, Golden Gate Park, S.F. (415) 566-0696.*

Best Self-Guided Walking Tour for Obsessive Fans

Developed by a group of friends who couldn't cross the Golden Gate Bridge without thinking of the classic 1971 Clint Eastwood film *Dirty Harry*, the **Dirty Harry tour** is a thorough guide to all the important spots in the city where scenes were shot. The tour primarily focuses on the famous phone-booth-to-phone-booth chase scene, in which the psycho's cat-and-mouse antics seem tailored to give the viewer an inside look at the city. Unlike the clientele of other overpriced celebrity-based tours, Dirty

Harry fans are DIY; the tour is not run through an official moneymaking organization. It is simply posted online, with tips on historical context, wheelchair accessibility, and hours and a healthy dose of *Dirty Harry* trivia. www.movietours.com/harry/intro.

Best Near-Useless Timepiece

Even the broken clocks on Market Street are right twice a day. But the **Entrada Court Giant Sundial**, in the middle of a cul-de-sac in the überfoggy Ingleside District, can go for days or even weeks without registering any time-reading whatsoever. And no, it's not a monument to civic graft. The giant sundial is the sole surviving relic of the Ingleside Race Course, where Gilded Age San Francisco went to bet on the horses. Developmental tides swept horse racing out of the city and down to the Peninsula, leaving only the incongruous sundial in the heart of a suburban neighborhood to mark the spot where fortunes were once won and lost. *North Entrada Court off Borica, S.F.*

Best Kiddie Playground

America's first three-dimensional storybook theme park, **Children's Fairyland**, lets visitors enter children's literature through "Talking Storybooks," animals, live characters, and fairy tale exhibits. Kids activate the sets by turning a "magic key"; it's all very exciting. Admission is cheap (\$6, open daily), and there's even the (more expensive) option of camping out overnight in the park (including an evening puppet show and continental breakfast). A hokey outdoor theme park aimed at children but not overrun by Disney memorabilia: how refreshing. 699 Bellevue, Oakl. (510) 238-6876.

Best Late-Night Group Ride

What began as a ragtag group of skaters has become an unofficial San Francisco institution. The **Midnight Rollers Friday Night Skate** starts every Friday at 8 p.m. With a typical crowd of hundreds, the skaters take over city streets, showing car drivers they're not the only locomotives with four wheels and a revved-up engine. The ride is mild enough to accommodate even the late-blooming new Rollerblader. It's *Starlight Express* for the people. *Justin Herman Plaza, Market at Embarcadero, S.F.*

Best Place in San Francisco to Watch Cars Get Crushed

There is beauty in destruction. People typically want to be burned or buried, ceremonially and politely, upon death, but your car has the option of going out

with a bang. A very big bang. Self-described "auto morticians," the good folks at **Ace Auto** will gut your useless old junk car and then let you watch a big steel ball drop down and crush it. It's about a million times more climactic and exciting than the lame Times Square New Year's ball drop, and it's live. 2255 McKennan, S.F. (415) 282-1353.

Best Plant and Flower Nursery

Sloat Garden Center offers both an indoor greenhouse and an outdoor display area for the San Franciscan with a green thumb. With such an extensive collection of plants, flowers, and other gardening items (Sloat is one of the few stores in northern California to carry Hidden Valley hibiscus), Sloat provides significantly more appeal for the look-and-think-domestically-but-don't-buy browser than, say, a visit to a pet store. It's also across from the zoo and next to Doggie Diner. So you can commune with the animals, eat like a dog, then buy stuff so you can play in the dirt. 2700 Sloat, S.F. (415) 566-4415; 327 Third Ave., S.F. (415) 752-1614.

Best Place to Rent a Motorcycle

Unlike most rental shops that cater to your inner Peter Fonda, **Dubbelju** is independent, is reasonably priced, and offers a variety of brands and models. The friendly and experienced staff maintains a refreshingly sleaze-free environment (note the absence of anatomically impossible blond sex kittens draped on the bikes in their online promo photos), and they'll give you good road trip tips. So go be a hell-on-wheels-cool rider for a day (they also rent by the week), before motorcycles go out of fashion. 271 Clara, S.F. (415) 495-2774.

Best Outdoor Public Service You've Never Heard Of

You scoffed at their elaborate feats of engineering in eighth-grade chemistry class, you turned them down as prom dates, but the science nerds are now head and shoulders above you in coolness; quite simply, they're making their own telescopes. Like, cool telescopes. And in a wave of unprecedented grace and forgiveness, they're willing to share their knowledge of the stars with you. **San Francisco Sidewalk Astronomers** faithfully practices "urban guerrilla astronomy" with homemade equipment on random city corners on a regular, if not neces-



Off with his head: Pedro Koberle races through the Alice in Wonderland maze at Children's Fairyland, Best Kiddie Playground.

sarily regulated, basis. The 24-hour hotline will clue you in to Sidewalk Astronomy events, and the Web site has further information about membership. www.sfsidewalkastronomers.org, (415) 289-2007.

Best Place to View the City While Sweat Drips in Your Eyes


The quarter-mile, sometimes muddy **track attached to UC Berkeley's Clark Kerr dorm** offers incredible views of the bay. The gate is usually open (if not, jumping it shouldn't be too problematic; come on, you're in exercise mode anyway), and the first-years are too distracted by their Discmans to care about your invading their turf. Get a good workout on a level surface (unless, of course, you bike/walk/run there from a lower elevation), and then reward yourself by watching the sun melt into the horizon. 2601 Warring, Berk.

Best Place to Feel Attuned to San Francisco Cult History

The **vacant lot at 1859 Geary**, between Fillmore and Steiner, is all that remains of the infamous People's Temple once presided over by the Reverend Jim Jones. It was here that the late cult leader conducted a rehearsal for what became (in Jonestown, Guyana) one of the largest mass suicides in recent history. For the full campy-sordid experience, be sure to stop at your local convenience store to buy a Kool-Aid packet (it probably won't carry potassium cyanide, though). 1859 Geary, S.F. ❖

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ask isadora
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Banging the boss

Q: I am a 40-year-old woman who works for a small company. I am married for the second time and have two children from my first marriage. Recently at a retirement party for one of the girls from my office, after a few drinks and after the guest of honor had gone home, I was alone with four guys. One was my 62-year-old boss. Of the other three guys, all in their 30s, one was Spanish, one was white, and one was black. We were all feeling no pain, and I decided to do a little dance for the boys and give my boss a lap dance. I have to say I was getting real turned on. My boss suggested we move the party upstairs, and he went and got a room. Once we were upstairs, the music was turned on, drinks were poured, and I started dancing again, doing a striptease until I was naked. I ended up in bed with the three younger guys while my boss sat back and watched. While I was having intercourse with one, the other two would be kissing and fondling me. After many orgasms I went over and gave my boss a blow job while he stroked my hair. It was a wild night! At work the following Monday I felt a little awkward, but nobody said a word. The next night my boss took me to dinner and later back to his office, where we had sex. Since that time we have been seeing each other on a regular basis, usually dinner and sex. We are both married and have been discreet in the office. Now he says that he loved seeing me banging those guys, and he asked if he could have a party with me as the entertainment. It was a great night, and I had fun, don't get me wrong, but I don't think it's something I want to repeat. I also don't want to lose my job or lose what I have with my boss. Can you give me any advice?

A: Learn to say no. It will serve you on many future occasions (and would have on several past ones, too). And start looking for another job while your boss is still in a good enough mood to give you a good reference.

Q: Let me first say that I love your column. I have learned a lot from you and your readers. I am a 29-year-old female with a wonderful lover who is very well endowed. We both enjoy sex very much. As we're having intercourse, something happens that embarrasses me. I'm not sure what it's called, maybe vaginal farting. Could you please explain what this is and why this happens? The first time it happened, he freaked out, but now he has come to accept it and even tries to make it happen. Am I one of the few this happens to?

A: These vaginal farts (or "varts," as a friend dubbed them) are sometimes called queefs and are more a response to the fit of two individuals than to one or the other of you alone. Air gets into your vagina when the two of you have intercourse and makes that noise when it escapes. I would bet it doesn't happen in all sexual positions with you two, only some. Should you want to avoid them, have him withdraw completely, press down on your abdomen, and "bump the baby." Otherwise, just enjoy the fact that you make a wider variety of bed noises than most couples.

Q: I am a 30-year-old gay male. I have a best friend of 10 years who is married and has three young kids. About four years ago we became involved in a sexual relationship. We go camping, go to parties together; we do everything together. His wife has no idea about our relationship. She has no idea I'm gay. The sex is more than great, and we love each other like crazy. I know this is wrong. His wife and I are great friends too. My friend wants our relationship to remain as is. I just wish he could make up his mind between me and his wife. What should I do?

A: What should you do? What can you do? Accept this as the ongoing situation it is, and accept that there are some things you can have of him and some things you cannot. If you can't accept it, bow out gracefully. If you force him to choose, you will probably lose. Here is a man who is having his cock and eating it too. ❖

Isadora Alman is a board-certified sexologist and a California-licensed marriage and family therapist. You can write to her care of the Bay Guardian, 520 Hampshire, S.F., CA 94110; e-mail her at askisadora@sfbg.com; or participate in her free interactive Sexuality Forum at www.askisadora.com. Alas, she cannot reply individually by mail or e-mail.

High voltage

After a spending a few psychotic days at DefCon, the hacker convention in Las Vegas, I returned to my office to find a hefty package waiting for me from Blowfish (www.blowfish.com). Inside, I discovered a low-amperage, high-voltage generator, one large, unipolar electrode, and one small, bipolar "shield." Various Y connectors had been tossed in for good measure. Were these components for some kind of robot? Did I need an oscilloscope? What's the point of a low-amp generator anyway?

To truly comprehend the meaning of my special delivery, however, I had to do something no self-respecting techno-geek would ever do: read the instruction booklet that lay nestled beneath the generator in its bed of Styrofoam peanuts. The cover of the thick pamphlet read, "Guide to Electric Sex."

This was a collection of electronic components that only a geek could love — quite literally. Created by Folsom Electric Company for the devious mad scientists at Blowfish, these electric sex toys are an underground fetish phenomenon that appeals to the sorts of people whose first sex fantasies were inspired by science fiction. I'll confess I'm one of those people. I mean, who wouldn't get hot watching Barbarella stuck inside a machine that rips off her clothes and gives her seemingly hundreds of orgasms? Or watching Julie Christie being molested by an A.I. in *Demon Seed* (a.k.a. *Proteus Generation*)? And what about that part in the book *Brain*, by Robin Cook, where the mad doctors "condition" their victims using shocks delivered via electrodes buried in the pleasure centers of their brains? And don't even get me started on all the robot sex in anime videos.

Let's face it: there's something sexy about the idea of dosing people with pleasure using machines. We live in a culture that adores technology, that sucks up alternating current as if it were a drug. And given our total dependence on electricity, it makes sense that eventually somebody would start associating electricity with the kind of raging, brutal, uncontrollable vulnerability that we call erotic desire.

Needing something intensely — the way we need electricity — produces a fear of losing it that is akin to arousal. We fear blackouts the way we fear being abandoned by a lover, and that fear creates the same kind of frantic, helpless lust. What if we had a blackout at the office on deadline, resulting in chaos and economic doom? The thought inspires a tiny tingle of terror not unlike the feeling you get when the object of your desire is lost, then returns with a shocking kiss.

Alright, enough philosophizing. Looking at that generator made me want to electrocute the hell out of myself. I wanted to be like the porn version of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, becoming my own depraved experimental subject.

Setting the thing up was as satisfying as building my own computer, except a lot easier. There was no CPU to install, no exposed motherboard to pore over, no concern that the various devices involved would mess one another up. I used my primitive knowledge of electrical engineering — how to make a circuit, for example — to figure out how to make my muscles tense up using the unipolar electrode with the bipolar shield. Actually, I could use the shield on its own, since it created its own circuit. I ran the flat shield over my arms and hands, changing the intensity and frequency of the current on the generator so that the sensations ranged from throbbing to biting, burning to seething. Using the electrode with the shield, I created circuits that ran through my thighs, my lower arm, my belly. (You have to keep the current below your waist, because if it runs through your chest it can cause a heart attack.)

For obvious reasons, it was titillating to have a device that combined two of my passions: sexual and scientific experimentation. And the sensations it produced were certainly unlike anything I'd ever inflicted on myself before. But it wasn't technically sexual. I found the device inflamed my imagination far more than my body. I liked the idea that I could use it to make somebody's muscles move against their will. And I was very keen to play electrodes and dials with another hapless victim in my lab.

Later that night my dreams were full of bodies penetrated by wires, and skin that burned my tongue with electrical current when I licked it. Back in the 19th century, our pal Freud wrote that everybody harbors the unconscious desire to have sex with their parents, mostly because they are our earliest sources of pleasure and physical comfort. But more than 100 years after Freud, I think it's obvious that our unconscious desires have mutated. These days, machines power our fantasies. And electricity has become a sex toy. ❖

Annalee Newitz (electrocute@techsploitation.com) is a surly media nerd who did eventually invite someone up to the lab. Her column also appears in Metro, Silicon Valley's weekly newspaper.

See Page 157!

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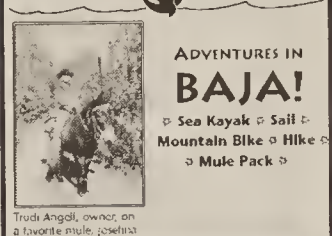
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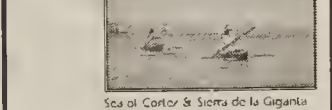
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Pai

Lonely Planet hardly says a thing about the northern Thai town of Pai, which is likely why it's still so idyllic. A quiet, hippie-friendly enclave tucked between mountains and river near the Burmese border, it's a backpacker hangout experiencing that magic moment before Kho San Road syndrome sets in, when it still feels secret and enchanted.

For backpackers the center of the Pai scene is Be Be's, a tented café where tourists and Thais pass around an acoustic guitar at night. It's owned by a savvy Thai woman but staffed almost entirely by *farang*, travelers who trade their labor for room, beer, and all the food they need.

I came to love Be Be's, but initially the place — full of stoned, white holiday-makers singing "Talkin' 'bout a Revolution" with burningly earnest eyes — made me ill. When we arrived, there was a craze for the Coldplay song "Yellow." Four, five, even six times a night someone would take the guitar and start the agonizingly familiar verse, soon picked up by dozens of others.

So at first I stewed and drank glumly with my husband and our friends Debbi and Kurt. But as the night progressed, others joined us. The fire dancers introduced themselves, and the "Yellow" singers struck up conversations. We were led to a nearby bonfire, and once there, joints were rolled and shared, and my defenses came crashing down. Here's the thing: the scene in Pai might be ripe with the ridiculousness of privileged kids going native, but the warmth and joy there is genuine. Perhaps because it's still a word-of-mouth type of place, Pai's visitors seem genuinely happy to welcome one another to their temporary paradise.

The landscape itself fosters serenity. The temples and many of the houses are gorgeous, made of dark, rich teak with carved white trim. The terrain around town is hilly and dotted with villages. A river winds through the town's edge, and during the dry season it's plied by long, flat bamboo rafts steered by standing men using bamboo poles.

Yet visiting the Lahu village eight kilometers away is almost like seeing Dorian Gray's picture: it's there that the damage wrought by Pai's hundreds of itinerant hedonists is visible. It's impossible for a casual visitor to figure out which came first: Pai's psychedelic gentleness or the Lahu's enterprising drug business. Whichever spawned the other, the two are now intertwined.

We went to Lahu because I'd always wanted to visit an opium den and one of the expats who worked at Be Be's, a boundlessly sweet Frenchman called Luke, said he could take us. It was raining viciously as we set out on motorbikes. At first the road was paved, but soon we had to turn onto a dirt trail leading up a steep hill. As we approached the village, people emerged to chorus, "Smoke ganja? Yaba?" Yaba means speed, an epidemic in Thailand.

The Lahu village is a collection of wooden huts and houses on stilts, with dogs and pigs nestled underneath. The opium den — one of several — didn't stand out. Inside, there was a woven mat and a musty pillow on the floor. A candle made out of a sawed-off Coke can full of oil with a stiff wick stuck to one side burned near a man in his 30s who sat kneading a black-brown lump. He bade me forward, and I lay on the pillow while he stuffed the opium into one end of a long pipe. He lowered it onto the candle flame, and I sucked the incense-sweet smoke as the stuff bubbled and evaporated. We all took turns, sprawling on the floor and staring at the ceiling slats as we waited. Each pipe cost 50¢.

I was feeling terribly worldly and intrepid when the man's three young children came in. They casually stepped over us as another kid might pass his father's briefcase or yard tools. Then, just as my husband had started on his third pipe, one of the little girls ran over and started fervently inhaling the smoke he exhaled. She tried to capture whatever wisps weren't sucked into the pipe, breathing deeply, eyes closed. She was about seven or eight.

Five or six pipes each left us dreamy. My limbs had turned liquid, and outside the world went by with exquisite slow grace. Debbi, though, felt sick, and after a brief walk, had to be taken home. The rest of our time in Pai was delightful. We rode elephants bareback through the Pai River, and they gave us showers with their trunks, which was both repulsive and thrilling. Nights at Be Be's we drank rum-spiked fruit shakes into the morning. Everywhere I've been since, I've talked about that town. But of course I was only there briefly. That little girl remains, stuck with the detritus of our fleeting adventures. ❖

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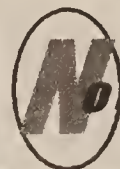
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yakuza film

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Pearl Harbor: The Sequel

Takeshi Kitano goes fraternal. *By Chuck Stephens*

I've been thinking about playing a traditional type of yakuza character for quite a while now," director Takeshi Kitano says, swatting at a swirl of smoke from his personally imported Cabin cigarette as he relaxes in a hotel room just off of Sunset Boulevard, a month or two before his ninth and latest feature, *Brother*, is set to begin its U.S. run. "Do you want to know why? It's mainly because whenever I go to film festivals, I'm always overwhelmed with the number of foreign journalists who want to ask me questions about yakuza movies or about yakuza behavior in general."

Brother — in which Kitano also stars as a deposed yakuza underboss who's been exiled to Los Angeles — may have its familiar attributes. For one thing, it's clearly a return (after the sentimental excesses of last year's cuddly *Kikujiro*) to the sort of poetic savagery on which Kitano's reputation is most solidly based; one Office Kitano executive went so far as to describe it as "a sort of *Sonatine 2000*." There's even a scene at the sea neatly tucked within it: an incident in which Kitano, costar Omar Epps (playing Denny, a street-corner drug hustler who becomes Kitano's right-hand man), Susumu Terajima (the scrawny and extremely talented actor who's appeared in most of Kitano's films), and a giant bodyguard play a quick game of touch football on a stretch of dirty sand beneath a pair of industrial smokestacks.

But as familiar as *Brother* may, on some levels, seem, there's nevertheless something archaic about it. After all, Kitano has played a lot of

tough guys and wacko yakuza renegades in the past, but *Brother*, despite its Los Angeles setting, is his first more or less traditional yakuza film: a film as filled with sacrificial finger-severings and nihilist acts of *seppuku* (suicidal disembowelment) as any of the classic yakuza epics made by Toho Studios in the 1960s and '70s. So when Kitano announces that "in truth, I've always hated yakuza movies," you'll be forgiven for thinking that the former stand-up comic is making a joke. He's not. "I've always especially hated the way yakuza are overly glamorized in even the so-called best of those films," Kitano says. "They're always mouthing these platitudes about honor and integrity, but the films never deal with the inner turmoil or the actual mentality of the individual yakuza."

Brother's attention to (and rejection of) certain generic tendencies in Japanese film is counterbalanced by the fact that it's also the director's first international coproduction: an Office Kitano project made in cooperation with Recorded Picture Company, the London-based group run by Jeremy Thomas (whose formidable producing credits include Nagisa Oshima's *Merry Christmas Mr. Lawrence*, in which Kitano made his impressive screen-acting debut), and L.A.-based coproducer Ann Carli. Most of it was shot in L.A. locations that Kitano could be gazing down on from his hotel

balcony as he speaks: a refurbished loft in old downtown, a lonely stretch of sidewalk along the Wilshire corridor, a sedate avenue nestled in the Pacific Palisades.

The gist of *Brother's* plot concerns the reunion of Kitano's character, Yamamoto, with his kid brother, played by Claude Maki, who was last seen as the deaf-mute surfer in *A Scene at the Sea*. Maki may play Yamamoto's brother in the movie, but it's the bond that forms between Kitano and "brother" Epps that gives the film its heart and positions its title as a kind of triple entendre. Black actors have had a long and somewhat scurrilous career in Japanese films, particularly those from the 1960s, in which they frequently appeared as objects of comic relief or as suggestions of the ultimate sort of cultural otherness. "I've been asked this a lot," says Kitano, whose use of a tall black woman as the butt of comic cruelty in *Boiling Point* drew criticism at home and abroad.

"Actually, the reason why I had the black woman in *Boiling Point* was that one of the first scenes I thought of for that movie was the scene where some of the characters are playing baseball at the beach. They're using this pink baseball, and that pink ball bouncing off of the surface of water in the ocean, and this black woman coming along to get the ball — I just had that image in my head:

the colors of the blue sea, the pink ball, and the black skin. I invented her character specifically so that I could create that scene."

Asked if it's still automatically unsettling for Japanese people to see black actors in Japanese films, Kitano says he doesn't think those old reactions have endured. "Not from my personal experience, anyway," he says. "In fact, my older brother used to work as a translator at an American military base, and he would always bring stuff home, like radios and TVs and chocolate bars. Once in a while he'd bring along his colleagues from work, and they'd often be black guys. I don't know why, but I kind of feel more familiar with black guys than white guys because of that experience. They all seemed easier to get along with, and friendlier to me when I was a kid. More fun to be with."

And yet, despite the warm-hearted spirit of international relations that seems to cling to *Brother*, there remains something vaguely antagonistic in it as well. Yamamoto, for example, is named after Japan's notoriously vicious WWII general, and a sense of kamikaze ruthlessness becomes increasingly pervasive as the film's staggering body count continues to rise. Is it possible that, in the long shadow of Michael Bay, *Brother* might actually be the director's attempt to restage Pearl Harbor? "Yes," Kitano laughs. "Just like the Japanese did in WWII, I'm trying to assault American culture with this movie — and I'm failing miserably!" ❖

'*Brother*' opens Fri/27 at Bay Area theaters. See Movie Clock, page 231, for show times.



Family reunion: From left, Claude Maki, Takeshi Kitano, and Omar Epps star in Kitano's latest feature, *Brothers*, a yakuza tale set in L.A.

PHOTO BY SUZANNE HANOVER

1. Aaliyah, Aaliyah (Blackground)
2. The Laramie Project, standing room only
3. Kevin disses Lori on *The Real World*
4. As *Nature Made Him*, John Colapinto
5. Jonah Sharp live at the Elbo Room

the mix

ENJOYING SEX: SOME SOLUTIONS IN AN AGE OF PROBLEMS

There are three steps to enjoying sex with safety:

- 1) The first step is to examine your attitudes and beliefs about sex in general.
 - 2) The second step is to assess the risks.
 - 3) The final step is to make informed decisions.
- So, before you can knowledgeably decide for yourself whether any sexual activity is worth the trouble and risk, you need to look at some of the things sex is and some of the things it is not. Let's define our terms.

First of all you must know, or be reminded, that sex does not necessarily mean intercourse. For some people this is a basic tenet of their sexual expression and they may wonder why I even took the time to mention it. For others, this is such a revolutionary concept that without deep consideration of its possibilities the rest of what I will say here will go unheard or totally misunderstood. So let me take a few moments to explore this further.

All sex is about the mutual giving and receiving of pleasure. Each of us gives and receives pleasure - emotional and physical - in different ways, at different times, in different situations. There is no one way sex has to be. There are no scripts.

Our society is notorious for not giving its members factual, honest and nonjudgmental sex information. If you grew up in a household in which the word sex was never mentioned, even if you never overheard or took part in whispered playground conversations about "the facts of life," you have still been bombarded with suggestions and directives on "how it's supposed to be." Certain kid jokes hang in the air of school buildings like the smell of chalk and disinfectant. Ones with punchlines such as "How far is the Old Log Inn?" and "So why don't you put your banana in her fruit basket?" Led us to infer quite early on that the mysteries of sex centered on the mechanics of coitus. If you were curious and lucky enough to sneak a peek at a Marriage manual and could decipher or ignore the Latin words in it, you soon deduced that various activities called foreplay preceded the main event which was penis-vagina intercourse.

Sexually, views of women have gone from their being non-sexual endurers of husbandly rights to compulsory multi-orgasmic marvels. The image of man has changed from the ideal of success-striving automaton who must hide their feelings from competing males to caring equals in a committed partnership wherein he needs to share every emotional ripple. With perhaps a nod of tacit recognition to self sexuality and same sex pairing, throughout all these changes society has continued to promote the idea that sex means heterosexual intercourse. "Having sex" usually does not mean the question of whether you are a woman or a man, it implies "doing it." It, of course, is the dirty deed, getting to home base, scoring, sexual intercourse.

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SEE PAGE 157

THE BEST BLOCK PARTY IN SAN FRANCISCO!

Digital hoedown

A high-definition, low-I.Q. comedy proves D.V. has a future, after all. *By Dennis Harvey*

Looks like digital video as cinema is here to stay, and for that most nobly democratic of reasons: it makes an elitist medium, or at least a major-debt-incurring one, affordable enough for all to express their inner Bresson. Still, there is such a thing as too much democracy.

How many high-def "debut features" — those 90-minute sitcoms, desperately unerotic "thrillers," dread "mockumentaries" — have made you wish an auteur's learning permit could be revoked? Still, there *must* be some decent D.V. stuff out there, right?

Actually, yes, and odds are that at any moment Jeff Ross knows exactly where it's buried. Ross is the man who recently gave you DocFest, keeps giving you S.F. IndieFest, and now presents year two of yet a third festival the world's most festival-deluged town didn't know it needed: Digital Underground.

Among the big titles are Dani Minnick's opening feature, *Falling like This*, an early-1980s restless-youth drama with Ani DiFranco songs, and Matt Steinauer's redneck martial arts epic *Ozark Savage*, plus docs about old-growth redwoods, modern tribalists, and why conspiracy theories are good for you.

The most important premiere, however, may render those and perhaps all

other 2001 releases superfluous — particularly since it involves restless, clueless, redneck youths practicing martial arts in pursuit of the world's greatest forest-dwelling modern-primitive paranoid delusion. It's also the year's most anticipated sequel.

Clutch your inner bong and inhale deeply as local director Gabe Weisert brings back 1998's most riveting star duo, real-life twins John and James Reichmuth, a.k.a. surreal screen twins Gil and Roy. Enter the hirsute warmth that is *Cow Monkey*.

Weisert's previous feature, *Fishing with Gandhi*, a semi-improv comedy that premiered at Film Arts Festival, was a hothouse of roiling urban-versus-rural tensions, as an earnest young Phishhead hitchhiked from Seattle to San Francisco — and met up with world-class Critter Country yahoos Gil (John R.) and Roy (James R.) along the way. Their pooled I.Q. gave rise to life truths demented enough for a bud-impaired alterna-youth to bounce a personal catharsis off of.

The dim duo have less spotlight competition in *Cow Monkey*. Cindy (Bridget Schwartz) is a graduate anthropology student researching her Bigfoot thesis paper in the wilds near Fort Bragg. Grover (Dan Klein) is the preserve's extra-crunchy-granola custo-

dian, one who may have spotted an actual she-Yeti. Both are pleasant semi-ditzes, with the odd genius moment (as when Grover sighs, "Sometimes ... I wish humans had never been discovered by society"). But these functioning adults pale beside the inbred majesty that is Gil 'n' Roy.

They, too, are seeking Sasquatch — albeit with a gun, not a flower or a notebook. Gil's rationale: "We've got a score to settle. It [Bigfoot] peeled our dog like a banana." Roy, the cranial hemorrhage to Gil's slow leak, just wants that inevitable *National Enquirer* capture money, since he's in heavy hock to a "crankster gangster" back home in Hooterville.

Yeti-netting, however, is just one among many, many tasks the brothers are perilously ill equipped to handle. A piercing if rare flash of interfraternal self-knowledge arrives when Gil — recalling one unfortunate past weaponry accident — warns, "Roy, you have not enough mental power to be in the NRA." Yet more staggering insights, tersely understated, duly define the Gil-Roy universe.

Hunting down the "700-pound primate killing machine" that may or may not have pulverized hound Wanda II (Wanda I is another tragic story) takes all of the pair's woodsmanly cunning,

especially since nonarmed vegan types Grover and Cindy keep getting underfoot. Tactics employed include cuddly bait (e.g., toy bunny dangled on fishing line from tree perch), Vietnam combat reenactments, a sort of kung-pao fu, intellect application ("Every single monkey has a clock in its brain. It's a principle of science"), and lots of talking. There's a truly Eric Rohmeresque-yackage level, standing and seated, in both features. Pleasurewise, it's no contest: one campfire conversation here could make *Ma nuit chez Maude* say "Uncle!" in humiliated awe.

Once again collaborating with his cast on the screenplay, Weisert lets *Cow Monkey* float by as slowly and prettily as clouds do across the blue Mendocino sky (very nicely captured in Matthew Uhry's Sony H.D.-cam photography) or the yea wider horizon behind Roy's forehead. No doubt there are people capable of laughing not once through Weisert's über-deadpan comedies. They should leave the country; we don't want their kind here. If the digital revolution means more Gil and Roy movies, this is a "golden age" (Ross's phrase) indeed.



Dynamic duo: Twins John and James Reichmuth star in Gabe Weisert's über-deadpan comedy *Cow Monkey*, which is shown as part of the Digital Underground festival.

May they live as long, and have as many wacky misadventures, as Ma and Pa Kettle. As the screen brothers themselves prove, quantity is quality. ♦

The San Francisco Independent Film Festival's Second Annual Digital Underground festival runs Thurs/26–Sun/29. See First Runs in Film Listings. 'Cow Monkey' plays Fri/27, 7 p.m., Zeum Theater, Fourth Street and Howard, S.F. \$7.50. (415) 820-3907, www.sfindie.com.

Dis Abel?

Ferrara checks into the New Rose Hotel.

By Johnny Ray Huston

Christopher Walken's film star may not be blazing brightly — he can currently be seen wearing a scary wig and playing secondhand man to Catherine and Julia in *America's Sweethearts* — but he's the sole attraction in one of 2001's best music videos, Spike Jonze's clip for Fatboy Slim's "Weapon of Choice." Jonze casts Walken as an old-school (as in MGM) yet futuristic dance man. Walken begins the clip looking like death in a gray business suit, but soon he's executing *Matrix*-like acrobatics, not to mention comedic tap prowess. "Weapon of Choice" may not be a feature, but it's been treated to a full-length enthusiastic review by *New York Press* critic Armond White.

One of "Weapon of Choice"'s highlights occurs when Walken leaps from a balcony, only to zigzag through the air like a baby bird. That moment could be Jonze's gift to Walken for his work in Abel Ferrara's dreary *New Rose Hotel*. In Ferrara's film, a suited Walken laughingly leaps from a balcony with fatal, rather than fantastic, results. The difference between Jonze's big-budget CGI display and the fatalistic reality of *New Rose Hotel* certainly pinpoints Ferrara's dilemma: his 1998 adaptation of a William Gibson short story had to create a vision of the future without employing expensive special effects.

Ferrara is no stranger to low-budget direction. Debuting with 1979's *Driller Killer* — leaving out the 1977 porno *Nine Lives of a Wet Pussy* — he first

made his name with the "feminist" rape-revenge fantasy *Ms. 45* (1981), in which a mute Zoë Tamerlis puts on a nun's habit before going gun crazy. Though Ferrara's career peaked in notoriety and acclaim with the 1992 macho-anthology fest *Bad Lieutenant*, my favorite of his films is 1990's *King of New York*, his first collaboration with Walken. Set to a hostile, paranoid soundtrack by pioneering hardcore rapper Schoolly D, *King of New York* has little plot and plenty of atmosphere; its vision of Mafiadom makes *The Sopranos* look as whitewashed as it is, and it definitely influenced gangsta rap trends that eventually grew to be as big as Biggie Smalls.

Low-budget sci-fi poses particular problems, though. Godard's *Alphaville* serves as a case study in what can be done; thanks primarily to Raoul Coutard's black-and-white cinematography, the film transformed then-contemporary France into a sterile dystopia. *New Rose Hotel* aims to make a virtue of bypassing the empty flash it can't afford (its use of high-tech gadgetry crests with slightly modified Palm Pilots), but Ferrara has far less visual ambition. He's basically provided

Walken and increasingly reptilian costar Willem Dafoe with an opportunity to indulge in extended improv-esque bullshit sessions with each other. The murky plot — matched by Ken Kelsch's cheap noir camera work — involves Walken and Dafoe's betrayal by a prostitute (Asia Argento) whom they've corralled into a get-rich-quick espionage scheme.

In other words, *New Rose Hotel* is a typical Ferrara trip into tortured masculinity: men suffering as they fuck and drink, because, hey, it's a tough life fucking and drinking all the time. Equipped with a cane to heighten what seems to be a Sydney Greenstreet impersonation (though he compares himself to George Burns at one point), Walken strings three or four clichés together in each bit of dialogue: he's "happy as a clam in linguini," because "this is a whole different ball game," and "it's not about money, it's about action." Actually, *New Rose Hotel's* idea of action is Dafoe showing off his ass yet again, in sex scenes that his dupe character is forced to remember because "the unexamined life is not worth living" (or, more likely, because there's a better chance of Cinemax

showing *New Rose Hotel* late at night if the soft-core is multiplied).

New Rose Hotel is at least equipped with an interesting cast. Argento, the flamboyant daughter of Italian horror master Dario Argento, was raped in one of her sweet father's films (*The Stendhal Syndrome*), so her numerous nude scenes here qualify as a cakewalk in comparison. By all accounts, her own directorial debut, *The Scarlet Diva*, promises to be an epic of self-indulgence, but indulgence is strictly a men's game in *New Rose Hotel*, where the women are chattel and sexual treachery is their only means of exerting power. Early on in the film Argento vamps to a morbid ballad by Catpower. "In this hole that we have made," Catpower's Chan Marshall wearily drawls, "we get further and further from what we must do." Those words are an all-too-apt description of Ferrara's career arc. ♦

'New Rose Hotel' screens as part of the series 'Rare Films by John Cassavetes and Abel Ferrara' Fri/27, 8 and 9:45 p.m., Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Screening Room, 701 Mission, S.F. \$3–\$6. (415) 978-2787.



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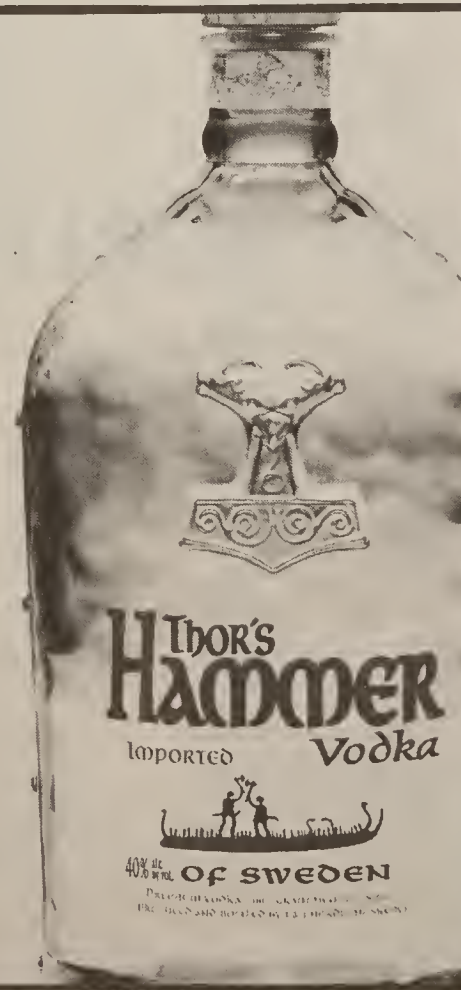
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Seiji: "I'm trying to do something scientific, because at the end of the day a house beat can get boring."

Broken/not broken

When it comes to broken beat, boredom is the mother of invention.

By Amanda Nowinski

House music is the comfort food of the club scene: the good old-fashioned, solid four-on-the-floor is as familiar as a looped snippet of a woman's gospel voice, or a sweeping, bittersweet melody, the kind that guts you, makes your eyes smart. Get a thump of that sound — in a car, in a club, on headphones — and bam! You are home. But let's be real: is it still taking you higher, to where you've never been before?

It would be convenient to say that broken beat, a relatively new sound hailing from West London, is the antidote to dance music boredom. But the problem with the so-called genre is that it isn't really a genre at all. Most of the music incorporates elements of live jazz instrumentation, but it has no definitive properties, no specific beat structure, no particular levels of bass, and no pro or con stance toward melody, vocals, or swingy, catchy hooks. Beats are rarely four-on-the-floor or straight-up breaks but instead are splintered and skippy sounding, which makes for a music that never sits still, even at its most nodding-off, downtempo moments. Its open-ended character is its single most unifying quality, because each artist is forging a uniquely person-

al sound, as with IG Culture's Afro-rhythms, Seiji's free jazz and darker electronics, Nubian Minds' tweakier techno edge, and the rare groove and soul-influenced sound of Afronaut (Orin Walters). In most cases the music is led by more mature players, such as IG Culture and Dego (4 Hero) of Reinforced, reflecting an ear that has been through it all and has loved all unequally. It is post-house, post-techno, post-ambient, and post-jungle — and yet, it is all of those things in no specific measure. If it's defined at all, it's defined by an attitude.

One of the younger players on the scene, Paul "Seiji" Dolby (a.k.a. Opaque and Homecookin'), a 24-year-old member of Bugz in the Attic — a leading broken beat production collective in West London that was started by Walters — has produced everything from house to drum 'n' bass; listening to his latest work, *amalgamation* is the word that comes to mind. "The whole West London thing is about fusion," Seiji says over the phone from his West London home. "We're not sticking to any formula. But the worrying thing about the whole broken beat tag is that people might think, 'OK, this is a style, and this is what it sounds like.' But it's not true. All the different producers

involved in what's going on, we're not making the same style. It's very diverse even within the West London thing. I'm doing something very electronic, and Domu is technical and hard as drum 'n' bass. And then you've got a soulful style from Restless Soul [Phil Asher]. It's quite a diverse range of styles."

The broken beat movement centers on the pioneering styles of IG Culture and Dego, whose Reinforced label was home to Seiji when he began making drum 'n' bass. Dego's 2000 Black label recently released the *Good Good* compilation, which is the best introduction to the sound on CD. It's perhaps no coincidence that the U.S. import was released through Planet E, the label owned by Detroit-based techno producer Carl Craig, whose free jazz-meets-techno project, Innerzone Orchestra, reveals a stateside link to the broken beat style. In a broader sense, what the producers in West London are doing isn't entirely different from the electronic jazz fusion styles rising in Germany with Trüby Trio, Jazzanova, Beanfield, Fauna Flash, and other artists on the Compost label, or from what Kyoto Jazz Massive is doing in Japan and Volcov is doing in Italy. "I see broken beat

A broken beat guide

Term origin: West London.

Source: Unknown. First used circa 1999.

Definition: Unsolidified. Genre without a genre. Music that sounds like house music, garage, breakbeat, techno, soul, jazz, rare groove, Afro-funk.

Trends: Using off-kilter beats; songs with space chants à la Roy Ayers, Sun Ra; using vintage '70s keyboards, break beats, and house music sounds in new contexts.

Primary locations: London, Tokyo, Berlin, Paris, Detroit.

Primary acts: Dego (4 Hero, Pavel Kostiuk, Plutonia), IG Culture (New Sector

Movements, Murky Waters, Quango), Alex Attias (Beatless, Mustang, Plutonia), Ne-Groove/Marcus Begg, Bugz in the Attic (Afronaut, Neon Phusion, Mark De Clive Lowe, Kaidi Tatham, BB Boogie, Homecookin'/Seiji/Urban Soul Collective/Orange Water), Domu, Volcov, Nubian Minds, Phil Asher (Restless Soul, Phoojun), Modaji.

Associated acts:

Jazzanova, Gilb-r, Kyoto Jazz Massive, Victor Davies, Vikter Duplaix, King Britt, Reclouse, Attica Blues, Anthony Nicholson.

Primary record labels: 2000 Black, People, Pure Filth, Main Squeeze, Bittasweet, Archive, Laws of Motion, Co-op, Visions.

Associated labels: Compost, Planet E, File, Flipside, Si Project, Talkin Loud, Earth Project, Hollow, Versatile, Fluid Ounce, Earth Project, Esthero, Chillifunk, Wave, Sonar Kollektiv, Revirth.

Primary influences: Roy Ayers, Don Blackman, '70s fusion, Masters at Work, New York garage, Fela, soul and every deep black music sound since 1950.

Beginners CDs: Various-artists compilations such as *The Good Good* (Planet E), *People Make the World Go Round* (People), *Co-operation* (Co-op), *Futuristic Dancing* (Bittasweet), *Laws of Motion* (Laws of Motion).

The first CD: Neon Phusion's *The Future Ain't the Same as It Used to Be* (Laws of Motion).

Essential beats: Afronaut's *Shapin' Fluid* (Apollo), New Sector Movements' *Download This* (Virgin UK), Domu's debut album (forthcoming, Archive).

Soul listening: Modaji's *Modaji* (Laws of Motion), 4 Hero's *Creating Patterns* (forthcoming, Talkin' Loud).

Garage listening: Nathan Haines's *Sound Travels* (Chillifunk), Urban Soul Collective's *Please Yo Self* (Si Project), Homecookin's *Do What U Wanna* (forthcoming, Sole Music).

Gamall

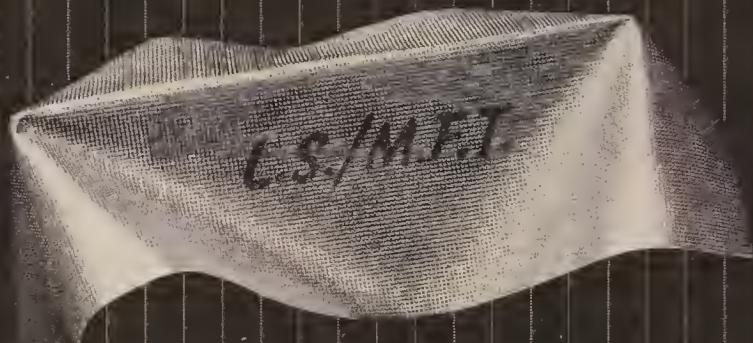
Gamall features broken beat on his weekly radio show at www.onthecorner.fm.



as a term under the wider umbrella of future jazz, which shouldn't be mistaken for acid jazz," says Tomas Palermo, editor of the electronic music magazine *XLR8R* and a local DJ who plays broken beat regularly at the monthly Emoto club night he coproduces with Jonah Sharp and Andrew Jervis of Ubiquity Records — the S.F.-born label that's supported the future jazz sound for years, with West London artists like Beatless (Alex Attias and Paul Martin) and Americans like Chris

Brann of P'Taah (and Wamdue Project), whose *De'Compressed* album features a broken beat remix by Seiji (under the Opaque moniker) and Nubian Minds. With twisty, cut-up beats and enough avant jazz stylings to have made Sun Ra or Rahsaan Roland Kirk proud, the music isn't as overtly dance-floor friendly as the old acid jazz tunes, which, for the most part, relied on simple funk and jazz bars laid over hip-hop tempo breaks.

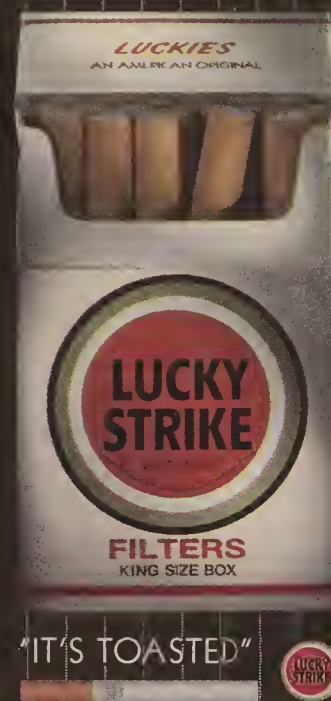
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Broken beat

From page 173

The strong core of the West London scene developed through a closely knit network of like-minded artists and a proliferation of labels that support them, including People, Bugz in the Attic's Bittasweet, IG Culture's Main Squeeze, Laws of Motion, and Co-Op, which is also a club night. "Bugz in the Attic is a constant collaboration going around between everyone," says Ubiquity's Jervis, who also organizes the monthly No Categories event at 111 Minna St., featuring broken beat and future jazz. "Everyone feeds off each other, and its true that it helps, going around in circles." Varied back-grounds meld endless influences — well, except for trance and crap mainstream house — and no style is left out. "Instead of getting boring, imploding, or drying up," Jervis adds, "the chief producers have gone on to develop a wider variety of styles. The Afronaught album sounds different to the IG Culture album, and the Beatless album is completely different to Neon Phusion album."

But while broken beat may be the newest buzz out of the London dance scene, another genre, 2 step, monopolizes the press's attention. Unlike 2 step, broken beat operates under uncertain guidelines and is therefore less appealing to genre-obsessed marketing schemes, which rely on singular musical trends to forward a commercial agenda. Could the elusive styles of broken beat—future jazz producers be in any form a conscious reaction to the aggressive mainstreaming of dance music or to the way in which another West London producer, bigwig 2 stepper MJ Cole, garners all of the spotlight? Seiji, who claims to derive inspiration from 2 step, says no: "The broken beat thing hasn't had much reference to another scene. It hasn't been in response to anything. No one sat down and said, 'Let's do that; maybe we can make a scene.' Its just genuinely people making music and doing something different and realizing other people were doing the same thing, so we managed to get together a little community, which has sustained it."

Still, Seiji admits that broken beat isn't exactly moneymaking music. The European glossies haven't been clamoring to put IG Culture or Dego on their covers, none of those artists seem to have press agents, and finding the music in the stores is a challenge. Hence, the music has taken an outcast stance: its refusal to conform places it on the outskirts of the commercial market. And also unlike 2 step — a black-innovated music whose media darlings, MJ Cole and

Artful Dodger, are white — the West London scene is defined to the media at large by IG Culture and Dego, and therefore retains a black identity, even while the broken beat and future jazz scenes have a multicultural character. The 2000 Black label leaves no doubt as to what influences the music is rooted in, nor do names like Nubian Minds or Afronaught.

Seiji, who was trained as a cellist (and plays cello on the Afronaught album), is more of a studio geek than a slick champagne sipper looking for cash and stardom — and anyhow, it's hard to imagine that anything with abstract beats would attract any level of cash-money glam. When he talks about making music, one word surfaces repeatedly: "science," evidence of his techie drum 'n' bass roots. "Drum 'n' bass is more about getting into the science of the technology of the sound and really messing with it, rather than just creating raw grooves," he says. "And at the time when it was exciting, it was all about the heat science and trying to see how far you could take the break beats, how far you could twist them."

It's the same scientific approach that keeps him making music today — except that he's no longer concerned with fitting into the genre trap. "My style of programming comes from drum 'n' bass," he says. "I'm trying to do something scientific, because at the end of the day a house beat can get boring, and it gets boring to be making music in that particular style where you've got to have a beat on every one. That's why we started making music that was a bit different, because we were bored."

And boredom is an inevitable development in a scene that is systematically battered into rigid genres. The dance music industry's vehement obsession with categorization leaves the rebels without aggressive marketing plans, without gigs at commercial events, probably without press agents, and certainly without big record deals. With no easily accessible formula, broken beat artists risk antagonizing critics and purists alike. Broken beat may be a small network of like-minded souls, but its message of emancipation from formulas and categories is appealing and no doubt will spread. ♦

Seiji plays *Loose Joints* Thurs/26, 10 p.m.–2 a.m., Top, 424 Haight, S.F. (415) 864-7386; *No Categories* Fri/27, 9 p.m.–2 a.m., 111 Minna St., S.F. (415) 974-1719; *Bottom Heavy* Sat/28, 9 p.m.–2 a.m., Top; *Waves* Thurs/2, 9 p.m.–2 a.m., Velvet Shop, 65 Post, San Jose. (408) 885-9283.

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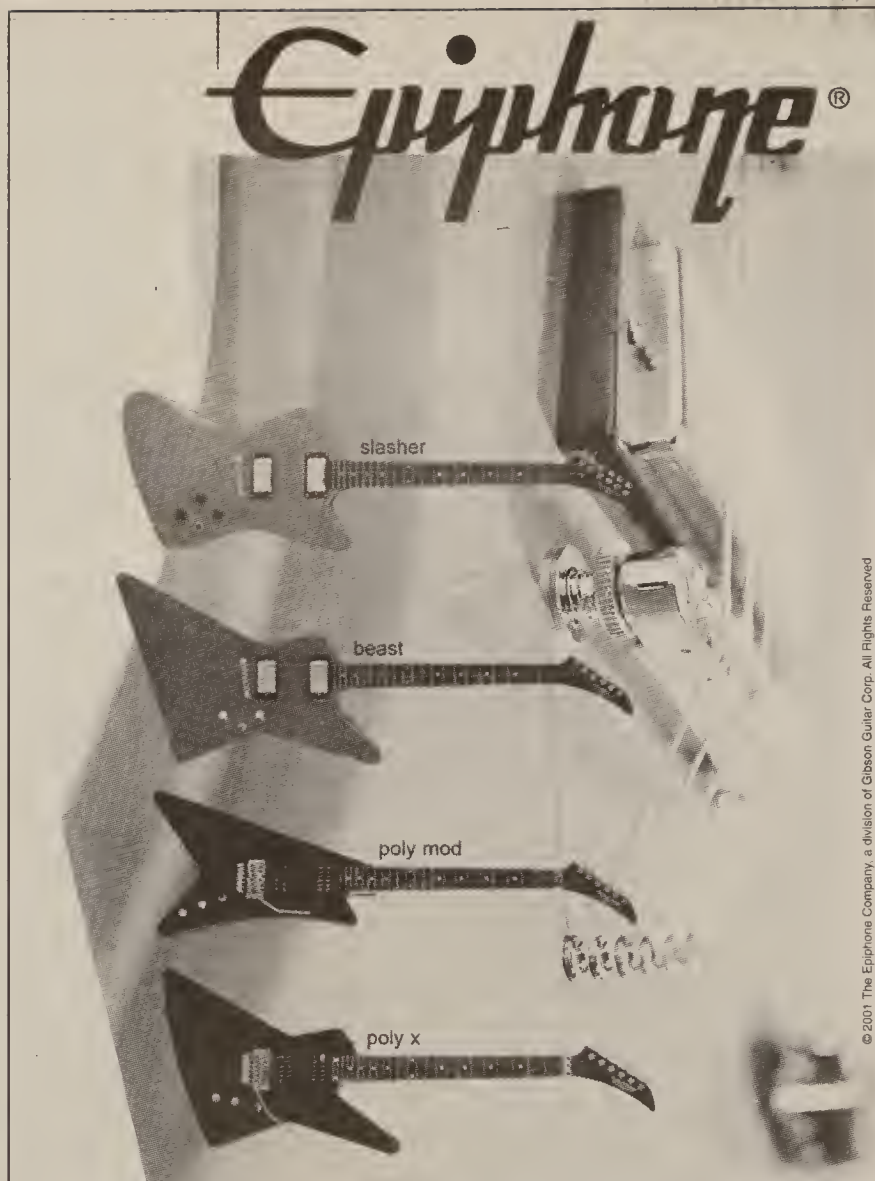
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A day in the life

The real Kofy Brown sounds off on music, the Bay Area, and lawsuits.

By Mosi Reeves



There are two sides to singer-musician-producer Kenya Sims, better known as Kofy Brown. One is a familiar sight: Sims/Brown, skinny and tight, wiry and demonstrative, gliding across the stage as her band — drummer Maurice Miles, guitarist Brian Hill, keyboardist Michael Wayne Meyers, and bassist Spencer Murray — thumps out a funky soul beat

for her to sing, rap, and declaim to. Then there's the pensive and contemplative songwriter portrayed on albums like the recent *Area 32* and 1999's *Skinny and Tight*. On those she splits her time between erotic jams and social commentary, imagining herself making love to you like you were her keyboard on "Fender Rhodes" and watching you on "A Day in the Life." The music here is as soft, yearning, and soulful as it is ferocious when performed live.

Brown isn't one to hide her feelings. "The Bay Area right now is wack," she said recently while reflecting on her move here from Washington, D.C., 10 years ago. It was easy to see why she had arrived at such a conclusion: a thick fog had descended on Oakland, finally smothering an unusually sunny and hot summer day, and a look out of her window would yield nothing but sad-looking people hunched up in sweaters and bubblegoose jackets. Still, she was as energetic as ever, talking for long, uninterrupted stretches while Brand Nubian's *Foundation* played in the background, making her observations without a hint of anger or pretense.

Back in 1991, Brown was a young keyboardist-singer, fresh out of college, who had played in a few D.C. bands (Park Avenue, the Uptown Band) that were overshadowed by the city's legendary go-go scene. She had come from an area with a large black population, and the racial politics that continue to dominate the Bay Area caused her to go into culture shock. "It's so segregated," she exclaimed. "You don't see no black people in

downtown [San Francisco]! I'm going downtown like, 'What up?' And I felt like I was getting these stares.

"A lot of my songs came from my impression of this area. It's just sad. Hunters Point, Fillmore — straight segregated," unless, she added, "they're homeless! So many homeless people! That's sad." From that came crowd favorites like "Fallin'," from her third album, *Hungry*: "Can you see the people laughing, see the people crying / See the people's pain and see the people dying?" And "Dope Fiend," from her sophomore album, *Live and Delicious*, "was about this homeless woman. I used to live on Guerrero and 18th, and I used to walk to the 16th Street BART station to go to work in the Financial District. She was always asking for money, wildin' out — you knew she was a crackhead. I used to see her do bugged-out things, like pull her pants down — ughh! It was so heartbreaking."

Brown developed her art in the Bay Area's black funk and hip-hop scene in the early '90s. She and her band performed shows alongside the likes of Seagram and JT the Bigga Figga; their peers included the Broun Fellinis, Riot Goin' On, and Colorbox. Initially pegged as a conscious rapper, she eventually mustered the confidence to sing as well, mixing a somber, half-spoken lilt into her raps. Over the years she took her band on tours throughout the western United States, up to Vancouver, Canada, and across the Atlantic for various European music festivals. They played alongside luminaries like the Roots, Cassandra Wilson, Bootsy Collins, and Earth, Wind, and Fire. "It was a shot in the arm," she said, remembering her band's impressive performances there. "We held our own. Not to put myself in their league, but as an artist, I don't care. Step on the stage, I don't care who you are — I'm going to do my best."

Meanwhile, back at home, Brown and business partner Nzinga Hatch, with whom she owns the label and management company Simba Music, were forced to relocate last year from their two-bedroom space on Adeline Street in West Oakland. "This cat bought the building," she said. "He let everybody know, 'Yo, I'm kicking everyone out. I'm converting these spaces into condos, and that's that.'" Luckily, they found a space above Piedmont Avenue, but "it's not like it

was," she admitted. "I'm really embarrassed to tell you what we're paying for this space, because it's triple what we were paying for that space, and it don't have half the room." Everything seems too expensive nowadays; she mourned the fact that "I've got a Bronco, but I can barely afford to drive it," pointing at the sports utility vehicle parked outside her apartment.

Brown bought the car after she settled a lawsuit against Arista Records. Divine Mills, a record company affiliated with the major label, recently tried to market an R&B duo under the name "Kofy Brown," inviting a cease-and-desist letter from Hatch. After hiring a trademark lawyer, Simba Music set out to sue Arista, which offered \$15,000 for the name; the two parties, Brown said, eventually settled on a figure "less than \$150,000." "Basically, we get to coexist. We have the trademark, but we couldn't raise the money to sue them," she shrugged. The R&B duo, now titled Koffee Brown, had its hit single "After the Party" played all over KMEL-FM earlier this year and even went as far as to schedule a concert at Kimball's Carnival in Oakland on the same night, June 28, as Kofy Brown's record-release party at Cafe du Nord in San Francisco. Nevertheless, Brown said she feels sorry for them. "It's a producer's act," she claimed. "They'll probably be out for a year and a half, make some noise, and then after that they gone. This money comes out of their share, so that sucks — you know all those [record] deals suck anyway — and now, what's recouped is what you have to pay us. The actual two artists [singers Fonz and Vee] are screwed."

Brown used the settlement money to finish recording *Area 32*. Appropriately, it sounds better than any of her first four releases, allowing her to fully capitalize on the notoriety brought on by her legal battle with Arista. "Basically, we used them to promote the record. We figured, OK, we're going to be the real Kofy Brown." She said *Area 32* is doing well on the East Coast, thanks to spots in *CMJ*, a college-radio magazine, and local DJ Davey D's weekly "Friday Night Vibe" e-mail newsletter.

"I've been thinking about moving to New York," Brown sighed. "I've been here 10 years, so I'm ready to go." Plus, there aren't many performing opportunities in Oakland, since most of the clubs program "mainly DJ stuff." Still, the success of *Area 32* is a bright spot amid a tumultuous life. "I can support myself doing music," she said, adding that a job at record distributor TRC Distribution supplements her income. "So this is my dream come true, meaning I support myself, I'm a working musician, and I'm getting the music out there." ❖

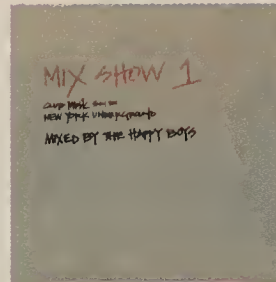
Kofy Brown: "As an artist, I don't care. Step on the stage, I don't care who you are — I'm going to do my best."



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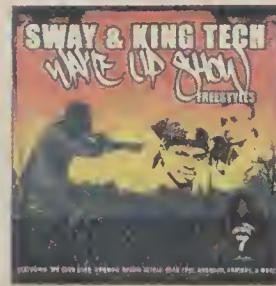
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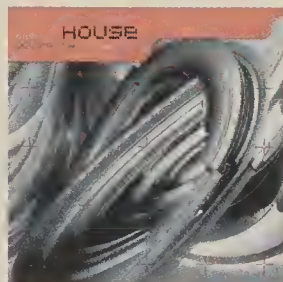
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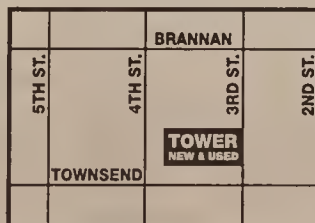
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The Screws

Shake Your Monkey (In the Red)

The Screws' 1999 debut, *12 Hate-Filled Classics*, remains one of my favorite records of the past 70 years, so I almost wet my goddamn willie when I heard *Shake Your Monkey* was available from the good people at In the Red. On that first record, main players Mick Collins (Gories, Dirtbombs) and Ten Wahl (Red Aunts) joined forces for some only-slightly-less-nasty-than-Pussy-Galore garage primitivism that matched the best of Collins's astonishing catalog.

Shake Your Monkey is an even less nasty outing, with Collins maturing beyond the protection of feedback and blown amps and moving into a potentially dangerous (for his fans) territory of widespread accessibility. Maybe it was the article in *Entertainment Weekly* (!) about the Detroit garage scene that name-checked both Collins and the White Stripes (not to mention bandanna promoter-idiot Little Steven Van Zandt). Maybe he never should have produced that Jon Spencer record. Whatever the reason, Collins has put out a record that can be played almost anywhere.

The good news is that if there's a punk icon that can get away with maturing musically, it's Collins. Sure, the record misfires in a couple spots, but mostly just on the Wahl songs (which is too bad — she was great on the first record; here she's a little, uh, shrill and not in a good way). Still, it's Mick Collins, so if you don't buy it, then you ain't shit.

Shake Your Monkey will probably introduce Collins to a ton of people who won't understand the seminal work he did with the Gories or the overdriven salvation of the Dirtbombs, but he's not going to alienate any of the old fans with this new respectability. The cover of the *Voodoo Lounge*-era Stones tune "The Storm" takes care of that, and the record is still raunchy as hell — you just have to turn it up louder. (Mike McGuirk)

Jim Lauderdale

The Other Sessions (Dualtone)

Country crooner Jim Lauderdale has met quite a bit of success in Nashville as a songwriter,

penning catchy material that's been covered by the likes of George Strait, the Dixie Chicks, and Patty Loveless. As a recording artist, however, the North Carolina native has never crossed the line from critic's darling to heavy-rotation radio star. Not that he doesn't have potential: the truckloads of songs he's put to paper over the past decade are full of hooks, and his twangy voice has an everyman charm.

If any one thing is keeping Lauderdale from the Top 40, it's that whether he wants to or not, he just can't play it slick. He's a traditionalist at heart, never fearful that his roots might be showing. His brand-new album is further proof of his incurable honky-tonk-itis — the dripping pedal steel on the twisting and turning "I'd Follow You Anywhere"; Tammy Rodgers's bright fiddle lines on "If I Were You"; the chunky guitar and down-and-out lyrics on "Merle World." He sings about trains on "Just to Get to You" (cowritten with the great Melba Montgomery), big rigs on "Diesel Diesel Diesel" (sharing the pen this time with '60s star Del Reeves and Diesel Only label honcho Jeremy Tepper), and love and loneliness more than a few times.

From the rock-solid "What's on My Mind" to the churning "Honky Tonk Haze," Lauderdale's writing, arrangements, and singing are tight and, thankfully, not overly clean. Perhaps his music could benefit from even a little more grit still — the unpredictability of a wayward Ernest Tubb vocal, for instance, or a dirty Johnny Cash guitar lick. Nonetheless, Lauderdale clearly understands and loves classic country music, and *The Other Sessions* catches him in tip-top form. (Kurt Wolff)

Ballbusters

People's Republic of Rock 'N Roll (Vicious Kitten)

Ballbusters singer Rick Blaze is one of the last links to New York's '70s punk scene. He shot smack with Johnny Thunders, and he recorded with Thunders's bandmate Walter Lure. Blaze also has a long history of fucking up, especially when it comes to his band the Ballbusters. Though they've been active during the past 10 years, the band's output (two long players and appearances on numerous compilations) has been as inconsistent as the lineup. As a result Blaze continues to reside in the punk world as a virtual unknown.

People's Republic finds the Busters refreshed, reinvigorated, and relatively sober. Four-fifths of the "classic" lineup return, with the addition of veteran bassist Cathy Peters, and the result is far and away the best album of Blaze's career. His voice, sometimes a dry rasp, sometimes a Northeast nasal whine, has never been stronger, and the rest of the band are shooting sparks.

Jimmy Giuffre

The Complete Capitol and Atlantic Recordings of Jimmy Giuffre (Mosaic)

Multi-reed player, composer, and arranger Jimmy Giuffre, an unacknowledged and unlikely jazz radical and innovator, paid his dues in '40s big bands with Jimmy Dorsey, Boyd Raeburn, Buddy Rich, and Woody Herman and in R&B sessions in Los Angeles, where he worked with the Lighthouse All-Stars and Shorty Rogers in the '50s, becoming associated with the West Coast Sound. Studying composition in L.A. with mystic-composer Wesley La Violette marked a profound turning point in Giuffre's approach to composition and playing. He began devoting more attention to the clarinet, playing it in the lower register like another tenor player, Lester Young. He began experimenting with counterpoint and out-of-time playing, resulting in the controversial 1955 Capitol release *Tangents in Jazz*.

Opening with the *Exile*-era Stone romp "Slipping Away," the band stay true to their calling of keeping the rock and roll simple, strong, and weighted toward the Lower East Side sound of '77. There are nods to Ronnie Lane and the Faces ("The Crush"), the Heartbreakers ("The Word," "Born to Die"), and the Dictators ("Back Where We Started"). Fueled by the twin guitar interplay of Jeff Crane and Dave Cuneo, the Ballbusters' dirty four-minute pop tunes roll along with an effortless familiarity. All five members of the band share writing credits, and as they all come from the same basic background, the 14 songs are cohesive without becoming redundant. Blaze and his gang may not be reinventing the wheel, but they certainly stand behind what they're laying down; *People's Republic of Rock 'N Roll* is their definitive statement. (John O'Neill)

Llorca

Newcomer (F Communications)

Soul is a dangerous sound. Play it too sexy and you can collapse into a quivering pile of moans and sighs, too sweet and the funk gets lost. You have to experience loss to have soul, and what do the young really know about that? Judging from the sounds of heartache and redemption that ooze from his debut album on F Communications, 26-year-old Parisian producer Ludovic Llorca knows plenty.

Llorca states his case boldly, with a first track that features a speaker ruminating on the supposed death of jazz over a swinging hi-hat, lyrical keys, and a thrumming double bass. This trio forms the skeleton for most of the CD, and though much of it is sampled or programmed, *Newcomer* has a strikingly live feel that is heightened by the attention to sound quality lavished on each element. A muted trumpet on "Lights behind Windows" sounds as if it were only at the other end of a zinc bar in a smoky tabac, while the Rhodes progression on "I Cry" is the perfect checkered tablecloth on which to rest the vintage cabernet of guest vocalist Mandel Turner. Treading a fine line, Llorca never makes the mistake of merely mimicking a traditional jazz sound, and he keeps things current with subtle production moves such as the drum rewinds on "The End."

What really sets this album apart from the pack is the presence of classy vocalists such as Turner, Nicole Graham, and Lady Bird. No wanna-be diva histrionics from these artists — the fit and flow is seamless. While some may wish for an album broader in scope or with more emphasis on the dance floor, *Newcomer* will satisfy those searching for the perfect soundtrack to cool summer nights. From syn-copated drum schemes to sweet swaying saxophones, Llorca is the sound of getting into the best kind of trouble. (Peter Nicholson)

In the late '50s there was an ongoing argument in parochial jazz journals and fan culture about "cool" (West Coast) versus "hot" (East Coast hard bop), and everything Giuffre did was looked on as heretical or retrograde. *The Jimmy Giuffre Clarinet*, his eclectic 1956 debut album for Atlantic, led the way to sessions of the Jimmy Giuffre 3: two drumless trios. The first included Giuffre, bassist Ralph Pena, and guitarist Jim Hall; the second brought in valve trombonist (and pianist) Bob Brookmeyer and did away with the bass. Their music was a combination of original blues and roots-based material and unexpected standards like "California Here I Come" and "42nd Street." Giuffre's dry and airy clarinet matched beautifully with Brookmeyer's burry neo-trad trombone and Hall's consummately attentive and discriminating guitar lines. Mosaic has again reclaimed an important and immensely overlooked original artist at a watershed period. (David Meltzer)

2nd Time Around

Pop-sych pop

These days, the unlikeliest role models are telling us how to be better people. Just listen to any one of the hits compilations in the series *Now That's What I Call Music!* and you'll realize that pop stars are the nation's new advice gurus.

Each *Now* disc assembles "Top Chart Hits!" from four big labels, which results in a pretty weird jumble of genres. But in pop's VIP room it turns out there's no important difference between J. Lo and that melancholy guy who sings for Coldplay. After a couple of spins, the varied (but equally catchy!) grooves can't distract you from the somewhat bizarre character of the clichés you've started humming.

There's nothing surprising with pop songs spouting clichés. It's the *kind* of clichés in hit songs these days that's so strange: the Top 40 has become a litany of daily affirmations. Hit singles used to be narratives, or declarations of everlasting love, or demands that lost lovers return. Today's chart toppers simply offer tips for better living.

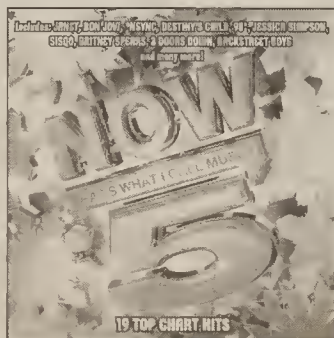
Everybody on the *Now* discs seems to be standing with open arms, trusting in themselves, knowing tomorrow will be brighter if they believe. The only variation is whether they believe in you (because you're all they need) or in themselves (because they don't need you anymore). Even the guys who just want to get laid can't help telling us how we could wave our dicks around just like them, if we put our minds to it.

Each track sounds like a new diet from a different magazine that knows exactly how to hook its target demographic. The discs begin all starry-eyed and innocent as teen queens and boy bands grow into their bodies. Britney Spears opens *Now 6* by turning a kiss-off to a bad-news boyfriend into an anthem of self-empowerment on "Stronger" (in which she learns to care for herself). A little later the Backstreet Boys take the jilted lover's part in "Shape of My Heart" — possibly the first take-me-back-I've-changed song that never once mentions how wonderful the girl is, restricting itself instead to outlining just how much the character has grown since the split.

The middle section of each *Now* disc is devoted to more salacious R&B acts, making it sound like the kids from the first round of songs have stopped coming up with giggling euphemisms for sex and have started having some instead. Yet the more worldly the songs become, the more desperate the singers seem to find some solace in home truths. Sisqó, who made his name with the ode-to-booty "Thong Song," spends half of "Incomplete" telling us just how rich and famous he is and the other half trying to convince us that having a big bank account and sex with lots of models doesn't make a man complete — a realization R. Kelly had on the next *Now* disc with "I Wish," in which he admitted that, though he's "smiling while sippin' on this Hennessey.... Y'all don't see the inside of my unhappiness." (The R&B consensus that material goods will not fill the hole inside you is bad news for Destiny's Child, whose *Cosmo*-esque "Independent Women" insists that the key to being a happy lady is earning your own dollars rather than hanging on the arm of a rich boyfriend.)

The discs always save the rock bands for the end, perhaps sensing that it's going to take some crashing guitars to make those sentiments sound grand the 16th, 17th, 18th, and 19th times we hear them. Once they hit the distortion pedal, though, the bands feel no need to dress up their platitudes. Creed title their tune "With Arms Wide Open," while Incubus — supposedly an alt-metal band, although you can't tell it from their hit, "Drive" — also sing about greeting "whatever tomorrow brings ... with open arms and open eyes, yeah." But not all rockers agree on the path to better living: Jon Bon Jovi suggests we're supposed to live in the moment: "It's now or never" he tells us. "I ain't gonna live forever / I just wanna live while I'm alive." (He also says his heart "is like an open highway," which, while difficult to picture, at least follows the Top 40 imperative to keep some body part ajar.)

For thematic consistency and the ability to hypnotize large swaths of the populace, *Now 5* and *Now 6* make way better concept albums than *Kid A* and *Annesiatic*. Still, you can't help wondering whether all of those songs charted because they cannily captured the zeitgeist or if the language of psychotherapy and 12-step programs is just so ingrained in the national consciousness that it's a natural part of the pop songs we can't help singing along with. ❖



See Page 157!

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FEAR FACTORY PUYA 8/1 Montime Hall	MINIBAR MOTHER HIPS 7/27 The Fillmore	PATTI SMITH 8/7 The Fillmore
EVERCLEAR AMERICAN HI-FI 8/1 The Warfield	*TIPSY 7/27 Bottom of the Hill	TRICKY EMILIANA TORRINI 8/9 The Fillmore
MATTHEW SWEET MINIBAR 8/9 Slim's	EVERTON BLENDER 7/28 Montime Hall	SQUAREPUSHER PLAID 8/11 Bimbo's
BRS-49 8/12 Slim's	CHARLATANS U.K. 7/28 Bimbo's	REGGIE & THE FULL EFFECT SAVES THE DAY 8/11-12 Great American Music Hall
BUJU BANTON YELLOWMAN 8/16 Montime Hall	*JONATHAN RICHMAN 7/28 Bottom of the Hill	NEUROSIS 8/17-18 Great American Music Hall
THE VENUSIANS 8/17 Slim's	AGNOSTIC FRONT THE BUSINESS 7/29 Slim's	GO-GO'S 8/21 The Warfield
DIRTBOMBS 8/18 Bottom of the Hill	MARK EITZEL 7/30 Great American Music Hall	DWIGHT YOAKAM 8/22-23 The Fillmore
THE MONKEES 8/18 The Fillmore	DAVID BYRNE 7/30 The Warfield	COCKNEY REJECTS GBH 8/24 Maritime Hall
MICK TAYLOR 9/1 Great American Music Hall	MOBY AREA ONE 7/31 Shoreline Amphitheatre	*HER SPACE HOLIDAY AMERICAN ANALOG SET 8/31 Bottom of the Hill
COWBOY MOUTH 9/7 The Fillmore	*PERNICE BROTHERS 8/3 Bottom of the Hill	*MARKY RAMONE 8/31 The Pound
FUNKY METERS 9/7 The Warfield	GOOD RIDDANCE DEATH BY STEREO KILL YOUR IDOLS 8/3 Slim's	REVEREND HORTON HEAT FLOGGING MOLLY 9/1 The Fillmore
STEREOPHONICS 9/8 The Fillmore	COWBOY JUNKIES 8/4 The Warfield	THE BLACK CROWES 9/5 Montime Hall
JOHN VANDERSLICE PRESTON SCHOOL OF INDUSTRY SPOON 7/25 Great American Music Hall	GREEN DAY THE LIVING END 8/5 Bill Graham Civic Auditorium	BASTARD SONS OF JOHNNY CASH 9/6 Slim's
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Calendar

critics' choices, listings, and more

185
Music

204
Events

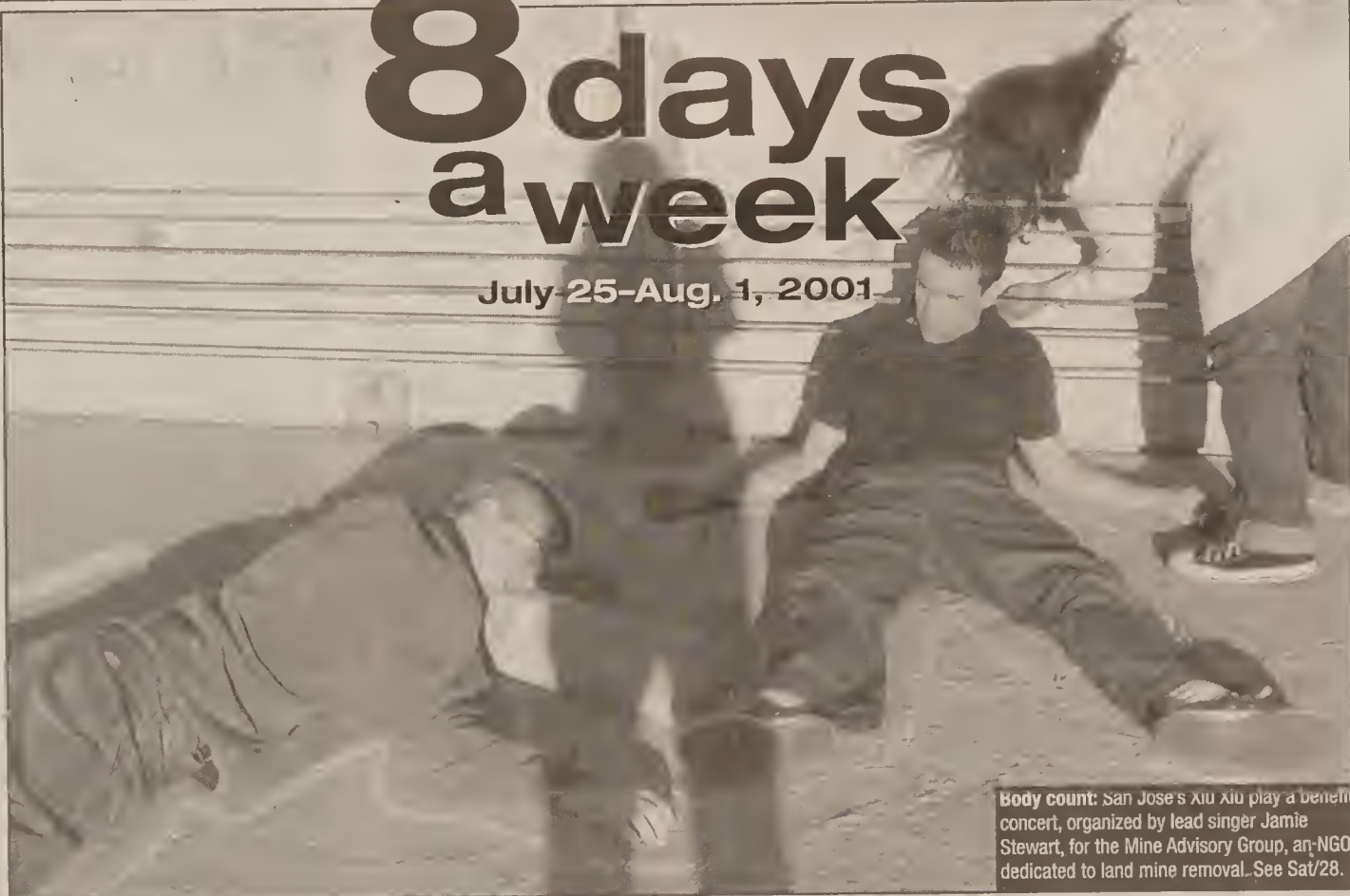
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Body count: San Jose's Xiu Xiu play a benefit concert, organized by lead singer Jamie Stewart, for the Mine Advisory Group, an NGO dedicated to land mine removal. See Sat/28.

July 25 Wednesday

Ticktock Is time on your side? Find out today when peace and environmental organization Planet Art Network (launched by Jose Arguelles, a cofounder of Earth Day) hosts **'Day out of Time,'** a music and cultural event in Golden Gate Park. Set to perform are Doug Slater, Trance Zen Dance, Cyoakha Grace and the Blind, and others; also on tap are drummers, martial arts demonstrations, and Butoh dancers. Planet Art Network representatives will be on hand to discuss their cause, which

involves a worldwide effort to reshape the traditional 12-month calendar into a new system that the group feels will promote peace by working more in tandem with nature. 11:11 a.m., *Golden Gate Park band shell, between the M.H. de Young Memorial Museum and the Academy of Sciences, S.F. Free.* (925) 462-1296. (Cheryl Eddy)

July 26 Thursday

Get porked There's a pretty long history of oddball bands coming out of Tucson. Maybe it's a lack of shade, or the quality peyote outside of town, or a natural by-product of living isolated in Arizona. Doo Rag, Bob Log III, the Fells, Mondo Guano, the Drags — the list of warped and wonderful music makers goes on and on. For almost a decade **Pork Torta** have been running with the above-mentioned contingent, burning a path through the stable of local labels and unleashing a wave of useless Torta merch on an unsuspecting scene. Like P-Funk alley fighting with Jon Spencer and Captain Beefheart, the addled threesome play music that is borderline brilliant and incredibly annoying. Tonight they join in on a four-way shit fit with the Flakes, Graves Brothers Deluxe, and L.A.'s Radio Vago. 9 p.m., *Kimo's, 1351 Polk, S.F. \$5.* (415) 885-4535. (John O'Neill)



Fact of life: Charlotte Rae performs as part of the Broadway-music AIDS benefit concert "Help Is on the Way." See Mon/30.

What women want Forget that sappy Mel Gibson movie. For some real insight into what goes on in the lives of women, check out the latest from the Bindlestiff Pinay Collective. The multimedia **1 of 8** — a collaborative creation by the seven Pilipino American women who perform in the show — shares stories of "mothers, sisters, girlfriends, lovers, and complete strangers" and points out what the title of the show alludes to: that statistics are often an uncertain way to categorize women's lives. A young girl in a white dress (which also serves as a screen for projected film clips of Asian American women embodying "traditional" roles) meets a stilt-walking tarot reader; each fortune-telling card sets up a new scenario revolving around a different statistic (for example, how often women are abused or assaulted). Despite the often sober subject matter, the collective is determined not to present characters who — as they have noticed in many other portrayals of Asian American women, particularly in film — are tragic or absorb the pain of other people around them. Instead, **1 of 8** offers an enlightened perspective and — with shadow puppets, physical movement, sketch comedy, and an array of unusual props, including dildos — an entertaining one at that. *Through Aug. 11. Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m., Bindlestiff Studio, 185 Sixth St., S.F. \$10-\$12.* (415) 974-1167. (Eddy)

July 27 Friday

Big papa! With more than 80 recordings (1964-2001) to his credit, soca king **Byron Lee** is one of Jamaica's hardest-working musical ambassadors. The industrious band-leader, who formed the Dragonaires in 1956 at 20, helped introduce sensual, fast-paced soul-calypso rhythms to the world via the James Bond flick *Dr. No*, albums *Jump Up* (Atlantic) and *Tiney Winey* (Dynamic Sounds), and his famed recording studio, Dynamic Sounds, where Paul Simon recorded the song "Mother and Child Reunion." On his 2000 release, *Soca Thriller* (VP), Lee marries soca to new-school dancehall, salsa, and hip-hop. In a rare appearance tonight Lee and the Dragonaires headline Caribbean Summer Fest with special guests Leon Cordero, DJ Omar, and Clique International Sound System. 8 p.m., *Cathedral Hill Hotel, 1101 Van Ness, S.F. \$35-\$45.* (866) 468-3399. (Shelah Moody)

July 28 Saturday

Magnified Though Jamie Stewart, singer and multi-instrumentalist for sad-house San Jose band Xiu Xiu has a rep for writing depressing songs, he doesn't just indulge his misery. After a recent trip to Vietnam, during



The numbers lie: 1 of 8, a multimedia creation by the Bindlestiff Pinay Collective— from left, Marellano, Olivia Malabuyo, Christine Bacareza Balance, Gayle Romasanta, Lorna Aquino Chui, L.A. Renigen, and Patty Cachapero — addresses the categorization of women through statistics.

which he had many encounters with maimed villagers and bombs languishing on the sides of roads, Stewart decided to organize a **benefit concert** for Mine Advisory Group, a British nongovernmental organization dedicated to land mine removal in war-torn countries such as Vietnam, Sudan, and Laos. "People's lives can be ruined in two seconds because of something that happened over 30 years ago," Stewart says of the enduring impact of war. Good point. Openers include the cacophonous Deerhoof, mayhem-driven Total Shutdown, the fragile Papercuts, improv duo the Owls, and Bevin of Blectum from Blechdom with cellist Dani De Grutolla. 8 p.m., *Cafe du Nord*, 2170 Market, S.F. \$7. (415) 861-5016. (Deborah Giattina)

Phat The roots of the **Fat Fry Music Festival** go back, I believe (or at least I like to believe), to the glory days of the South Bay's KFAT radio station. KFAT featured, at its best, a twisted, psychedelic-inspired mix of music that ranged from country and bluegrass to all points beyond. Those days are gone, but the Fat Fry is worth paying attention to. This year's headliner is Lucinda Williams, and she'll be appearing on Saturday with, among others, Dave Alvin and the Guilty Men and Tish Hinojosa; Sunday features the Sam Bush Band, Rodney Crowell, and Jerry Jeff Walker and the Gonzo Compadres. Take a road trip, take some drugs (or not), and enjoy the weekend. *Through Sun/29, 11 a.m.—7 p.m., Aptos Village Park, Santa Cruz.* \$28–\$32. (831) 420-2800. (J.H. Tompkins)

July 29 Sunday

Afropop Hailing from the same country that catapulted Youssou N'Dour to international stardom, singer-songwriter **El Hadj N'Diaye**

has recently emerged as the next likely musical celebrity from Senegal. Formerly an economics student in Dakar, N'Diaye directs arts activities for a nongovernmental organization called Environment, Development, and Action and has also appeared in films (including a comic remake of the Bizet opera *Carmen*). But it's as a progressive musician—singing about war, poverty, and injustice as well as romance, in a musical style that combines native Senegalese pop (m'balax) and edgy rock guitar—that he is making his international mark. Last year he won a Choc du Monde de la Musique award in France for his debut album, *Thiaroye* (Sigi Music), and his new album, *Xel* (World Village), promises even greater global exposure. 9 p.m., *Ashkenaz*, 1317 San Pablo, Berk, \$10. (510) 525-5054. (Derk Richardson)

July 30 Monday

Take the good If someone told you that you could see Charlotte

Rae (a.k.a. that lovable taskmaster Mrs. Garrett from *The Facts of Life*), Olympic ice-skating gold medalist Brian Boitano, and TV and film star Marilu Henner all on one stage, follow it up with a cake-and-brownie after party, and call the whole thing a tax write-off, would you believe it? **'Help Is on the Way VII: An All Broadway Concert,'** a gala benefit for local AIDS service agencies, makes it all a reality, bringing together a slew of celebrities for two nights of Broadway tunes. This year's focus is the music of Adler, Bock, and Coleman, and the program is filled with classics from *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Damn Yankees*, *Sweet Charity*, and more. Tonight a black-tie reception kicks off the festivities; tomorrow night's event features a silent auction. Tonight 5:30 p.m.; Tues., 6 p.m., *Palace of Fine Arts*, 3601 Lyon, S.F. \$50 and up. (415) 273-1620, www.helpisontheway.org. (Sarah Lidgus)

Jazz appeal Before moving to the West Coast some 30 years ago, Brooklyn-born trumpeter **Eddie Gale** played with Sun Ra, Cecil Taylor, John Coltrane, Jackie McLean,

and Booker Ervin and recorded two albums in the late '60s for Blue Note (*Eddie Gale's Ghetto Music* and *Black Rhythm Happening*). His national visibility may have been reduced by his long-term residence in San Jose, but his community involvement has made him a grassroots hero. His return to Yoshi's (under Jazz in Flight's auspices) takes on added historical significance with the guest appearance of Prince Lasha: the saxophonist-flutist grew up in Fort Worth, Texas; played alongside Ornette Coleman and Charles Moffett in a high school band; moved to California in 1954; and later performed with Sonny Simmons, Eric Dolphy, Elvin Jones, and others. Gale and Lasha will share the front line; pianist Will Nichols, bassist Randy Hunt, and drummer Prince Lasha Jr. will hold down the rhythm section. 8 and 10 p.m., *Yoshi's*, 510 Embarcadero West, Jack London Square, Oakl. \$8–\$10. (510) 238-9200. (Richardson)

July 31 Tuesday

Village people The odd name might boggle your mind, but the savory sounds of **Slum Village** will soothe your soul. This Detroit hip-hop crew brings a new edge to the glamour and glitz of the mainstream by taking a different musical approach in their talk of money, sex, and hometown representation. An eight-piece live band will re-orchestrate producer Jay Dee's beautiful beats—the trademark funky bass lines, crisp drums, and Rhodes-flavored keyboard loops he uses to complement the fluidly slurred vocals of MCs Baatin and T3 and the microphone-ripping raps of El-Zhi. In turn, expect the trio to sound flawless as they tag-team rhymes over the melodic instrumental compositions. If you're aching for something different, this is the show for you. Ex-Questers Phife Dawg and

Jerobi open, along with Mystic, Dwele, Donsen Park, and Motor City wordsmith Phat Kat. 7 p.m., *Maritime Hall*, 450 Harrison, S.F. \$18–\$20. (415) 974-0634. (Michael Gadd)

Aug. 1 Wednesday

Indie idolatry What's the deal with Olympia, Wash.? Just like the U.K.'s *New Music Express* fawns over the latest foppish fashion plates and dutifully names them "the new Beatles," zine dorks always seem to celebrate the latest indie darlings from the Northwest as their new punk saviors. And just like their pals across the pond, they're always dead wrong. This season the buzz continues to focus on Olympia's Arkansas expatriates, the **Gossip**. While not the answer to indie prayers, their debut album, *That's Not What I Heard* (Kill Rock Stars), is loaded with enthusiastic swagger and a straight-up simplicity that should make for extended periods of ass shaking. And, saviorship aside, what more could any music fan ask for? Arrive early as Erase Errata, fresh off their national tour, should steal their fair share of the crowd's heart. 9 p.m., *Great American Music Hall*, 859 O'Farrell, S.F. \$10. (415) 885-0750. (O'Neill)

The Bay Guardian listings deadline is two weeks prior to our Wednesday publication date. To submit an item for consideration, please include the title of the event, date and time, venue name, street address (listing cross streets only is not sufficient), city, telephone number readers can call for more information, telephone number for media, admission costs, and a brief description of the event. Send information to Listings, 520 Hampshire St., S.F. 94110; fax to (415) 487-2506, or e-mail to lists@sfbg.com. We cannot guarantee the return of photos, but enclosing an SASE helps. We regret we cannot accept listings over the phone.

At this very moment you're paging through the *Bay Guardian's* annual fat 'n' juicy Best of the Bay issue, compiling a mental list of new restaurants, out-of-the-way shops, and weird historical points of interest to visit. Celebrate all that is unique about San Francisco (and the whole Bay Area) at the *San Francisco Bay Guardian's* 35th Anniversary **Best Block Party in San Francisco**, a six-hour shindig to honor our Best of the Bay winners, sprawling across our home turf in the Mission. The eclectic entertainment lineup features Wicked and Psychofunkodiscodelic DJs Garth, Laird, Jëno, Laron, Markie, and CB; live acts Hesohi of Imperial Dub, Zoopy Funk Theatre and the Yard Dawgs, X-tra Action Marching Band, the Damsels, Cellaphane Masses, and Suite 304; plus the fabulous Heklina and Peggy L'eggs, break-dancing by Ground FX, Mexican wrestling by Lucha Libre, and contortionist Madame Ming. Rarely has the phrase "something for everyone" been more aptly applied, so come out for a rambunctious afternoon with San Francisco's only independently owned alternative weekly newspaper. All proceeds benefit the Bay Guardian Community Fund. *Sun/29, noon–6 p.m., Hampshire between Mariposa and 18th St., S.F. Free.* (415) 487-4601. (Cheryl Eddy)



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Cadillac Ranch

1655 B Willow Pass Rd. Concord 925-686-6809

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175 N. San Pedro San Jose 408-298-9283

Party all night! Multiple dance floors, tantalizing tunes and state-of-the-art lighting make this a Wild experience.

Polly Esther's

181 Eddy St. San Francisco 415-885-1977

The Usual

400 S. First St. San Jose 408-535-0330

How come you never call?

Rawhide II

280 7th St. San Francisco 415-621-1197

Come and get it, city slickers! Wanna be a cowboy? Strap on your spurs, grab your lasso and gallop on down to this hot spot south of the market.

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Raise your expectations, come see all the beautiful faces and experience pleasurable sensations.

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For more information about PM USA and its products, visit www.pmlounge.com or call 1-877-PMUSAWEB.

Bar information subject to change.



SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking By Pregnant Women May Result in Fetal Injury, Premature Birth, And Low Birth Weight.

music

Music listings are compiled by Sarah Han. The music intern is Michael Gadd. Since club life is unpredictable, it's a good idea to call ahead to confirm bookings and hours. Prices are listed when provided to us. See 8 Days a Week for information on how to submit an item to listings.

wednesday 25

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Dark Muse, Tom Nunn, Nihil Communication *Kimo's*, 8pm, \$5. Carnival Ad Nauseum series.
Jaka Boom Boom Room, 9:15pm, \$5.
Jimbo Trout and the Fishpeople Johnny Foley's, 9pm, free.
Billy Lee Riley, Carl 'Sonny' Leyland *Elbo Room*, 10pm, \$8.
Mark Robinson, Calvin Johnson, Whysall Lane *Bottom of the Hill*, 9:30pm, \$7.
Second Set, Luce Last Day Saloon, 9pm, \$3.
Spoon, Preston School of Industry, John Vanderslice *Great American Music Hall*, 9pm, \$10.
'Swashbuckler's Ball' *Cafe Du Nord*, 10pm, \$3. The Filthy Fuckin' Sharks (members of Vue and the Evening), Aarrh (members of the Riverbottom Nightmare), the Map (members of Ghost Orchid), One Good Eye (members of Idiot Flesh and Mark Growden).

Bay Area

Last of the V8s, Arno Corps *Stork Club*, 9pm, \$5.
Karney, Blackdog 19 Broadway, 9pm.
Suite 304 *Jupiter*, 8pm.

Jazz/new music

Don Asher and Kent Cohea *Moose's*, 8pm.
Juse Pinto Jazz Ensemble *Shanghai 1930*, 7-10:30pm.
Maye Cavallaro *Piaf's*, 1686 Market, 864-3700, 8pm, \$10.
Al Marshall Trio *Argent Hotel*, 50 Third St, 974-6400, 8:30pm.
Jason Myers *Houston's*, 1800 Montgomery, 392-9280, 6pm.
Steve Ross *Plush Room*, York Hotel, 885-2800, 8pm, \$25. Wed-Sun, through Aug 5.
Tony Saunders' Jazz Trio *John's Grill*, 63 Ellis, 986-0069, 6:30-10pm.
Charles Unger Experience *Les Joudins*, 8pm.

Folk/world/country

Les Yeux Noirs *San Francisco Community Music Center*, 544 Capp, 252-6252, 5:30pm, free. French Gypsy and klezmer band.

Bay Area

Perfect Strangers, *Bluegrass Intentions* *Ashkenaz*, 8pm, \$10.

Dance clubs

Bang Bang *Justice League*, 9pm. MoC and Foxsee spin 2 step and soul.
Bondage A Go-Go *Cat Club*, 9pm-3am, \$7-10. With DJs Damion and Fernando.
Club Lovely *Edinburgh*, 9:30pm-2am. Indie, Brit pop, and mod.
Construction 330 *Ritch*, 10pm. Tech-house with residents Torque and Huey.
Dig the Pony *Pow! A Cocktail Lounge*, 9pm-2am. With Chulada and weekly guests.
Discover *Ruby Skye*, 9pm-3am. "Hard House" with DJ Guy Orndel and Spesh.
Element *Cellar*, 9pm-2am. Drum 'n' bass and 2 step with residents and guest Freya.
Exotica *Glas Kat*, 6-9pm. Alternative and trip-hop with DJ Dan and Will Lemon. 9pm-2am. Go-go dancing with the Men of Exotica and Go-Go Tribe and funk, disco, and house music.
Loofa *Light*, 839 Geary, 474-3216, 10pm-2am, \$3. With Barefoot and friends.

North Beach Jazz Festival

Sat/28-Sun/5, various locations

I can't wait to hear the electric orchestra led by bassist Benny Rietveld that's saluting Miles Davis on opening day at this year's North Beach Jazz Festival. The anarchic energy and relentless exploration of that period of Davis's music has a unique appeal to contemporary players: the standard has been set high, providing a challenge to all who tackle this music. The band features Bill Orvitz on trumpet, Peter Horvath on keyboards, and guest saxophonist Bennie Maupin, who played with Davis circa *Bitches Brew*. An acoustic ensemble led by drummer Eddie Marshall, with special guest Bobby Hutcherson, will

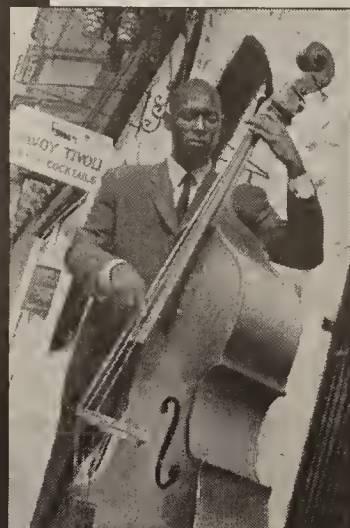


PHOTO OF MARCUS SHELBY

also be on the bill, and the East Bay's best live band, Mingus Amungus, who bring superb musicianship and a dazzling crew of rappers and dancers to the stage, complete the opening-day lineup. A word to the wise: dress warmly; the wind blows up there. For a complete festival lineup check out this week's and next week's *Bay Guardian* music listings. This week: Sat/28, 12:30 p.m., Coit Tower, 1 Telegraph Hill; S.F. \$30; Sun/29, 8 p.m., San Francisco Art Institute, 800 Chestnut; S.F. \$10-\$12; Mon/30, 7th Note Club, 915 Columbus; S.F. \$18; Tues/31, 7th Note Club, \$25. (415) 771-2061, www.nbjazzfest.org. (J.H. Tompkins)

Low Down Grooves

The Top, 7-10pm. Happy hour.
Mind, Body, and Soul *Butter*, 9pm-2am. House, progressive house, and breakbeats with residents.
Poly's Playhouse *Hush! Hush! Lounge*, 9pm-2am, \$4. With DJ Polywog and the Tadpoles and guests.
Qool 111 *Minna St.*, 5-10pm, \$5. Pan-techno lounge with DJs Spesh, Gil, Hyper D, and guests.
Recline *AsiaSF*, 7pm, \$5. With Pause, Jamo, and Wisdom.
Red Wine Social *Dalva*, 3121 16th St, 332-5800, ext 211, 10pm-2am. With Toph One.
Séance *Backflip*, 6-10pm. With Didje Kelly and Russell Vargas.
Skin *Make-Out Room*, 10pm-2am, \$5. World beat with resident Soulsalaam and a guest performance by Sunugal Ballet.
Sweet Spot *Club 238*, 238 Columbus, 434-1308, 9pm-2am. Hip-hop, R&B, and reggae with Joe Quixx, Fuze, and Kevvy Kev.
Tongue and Groove 9pm. Guest DJs, Jaswho, and Drums 'n' Space.
Tranquility Base 26 *Mix*, 9pm-2am. Ambient sounds with Robert Miles.
Ultraspinn *An Sabin*, 9:30pm-2am, \$4. Raoul Khan, Scott Quick, and Kepi spin house.
Wanton Wednesdays *Laszlo*, 2526 Mission, 401-0810, 9pm-2am. With Neel N. Kizmiarz.
Wednesdaze *Bohemia Bar*, 1624 California, 474-6968, 6pm-2am. House and techno with rotating residents.

Bay Area

Bubblegum *Mambo Lounge*, 14572 E 14th St, San Leandro, (510) 357-7777, 10pm-2am.

Rotating DJs spin hip-hop, R&B, and dancehall.
Flavors *Ramada Inn*, Chibbo's Bar and Grill, 920 University, Berk, (510) 496-3450, 10:30pm. Open mic and urban soul with Uno and Scientific.
Radio 435 13th St, Oakl, (510) 451-2889, 10pm-2am. '60s ska and Jamaican dub.
Salsa Caliente *Club Fusetti*, 10pm. Pete Solis spins salsa and merengue. Salsa lessons at 8pm.

thursday 26

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Blackdog *Last Day Saloon*, 9pm, \$6.
Brenda Boykin and Home Cookin *Boom Boom Room*, 9:15pm, \$4.
Jane Brody, Christene Le Doux, True Magrit, Debra Knox, Red Vinyl *Fur Hotel Utah*, 8:30pm, \$5. DivaBands showcase.
Disbelievers, Paula Kelley *Edinburgh Castle*, 10pm.
Shane Dwight *Biscuits and Blues*, 9pm-1am.
Flakes, Graves Brothers *Deluxe*, Radio Vago, Pork Torta *Kimo's*, 9pm, \$5. See 8 Days a Week, page 182.
Drew Harrison and Wayne McSweeney *Johnny Foley's*, 9pm, free.
Hog Molly, Dirty Power, All About Evil *Bottom of the Hill*, 9:30pm, \$6.
Ledisi, Anibade, and DJ IJ *Cafe Du Nord*, 10pm, \$7.
The Jessica Will Band *Paradise Lounge*, 9pm.
Zao, Haste, Not Waving But Drowning, Spiritfall, Betray the Species *Pound-SF*, 8pm, \$12.

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LIVE SHOWCASE!!! FOREIGN LEGION

☆ **djs** MIKE NICE
CLOCKWORK
COOP D'VILLE
REN THE VINYL ARCHAEOLOGIST
\$10 at door, \$7 advance

FRIDAY, AUG. 17

LIVE SHOWCASE!!! MISSION

☆☆☆
djs: TBA
\$10 at door, \$7 advance

FRIDAY, AUG. 3

LIVE SHOWCASE!!! XROADS ☆☆☆

☆ **djs** JAH YZER
CLOCKWORK
PAUL NICE
\$10 at door, \$7 advance

FRIDAY, AUG. 24

LIVE SHOWCASE!!! TES ONE (NYC)

☆☆☆
DI SPACECRAFT ONE
\$10 at door, \$7 advance

FRIDAY, AUG. 10

LIVE SHOWCASE!!! TRE (PHARCYDE)

WITH AN 8-PIECE BAND
LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE
FOR THIS INTIMATE ENGAGEMENT
\$20 at door, \$15 advance

FRIDAY, AUG. 31

LIVE SHOWCASE!!! COUNT BASS D (TN)

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djs: TBA
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Featuring a Live 105 Subsonic DJ set

Prepurchase the new Crystal Method album Tweekend by July 26th, and have the CD booklet signed by Crystal Method at the Virgin Megastore. Tweekend available July 31st. Be the first to get the limited edition of Tweekend and receive a TWEAKEND PASS that gets you exclusive downloads, meet and greet opportunities, and contests.

Win a trip to see Crystal Method perform Live at Rave on the Rocks at Red Rocks in Denver on August 17th. Enter only at VIRGINMEGA.COM! (Entries must be received by midnight August 5th.)

Pre-performance listening party 1PM. Enter the breakdance contest and win a 6-bag backpack with portable speakers, courtesy of 9six16. See store for details.

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music calendar

club guide venue directory

Amnesia 853 Valencia; (415) 970-8336.
Amoeba Music 1855 Haight; (415) 831-1200.
Annie's Cocktail Lounge 15 Boardman Place; (415) 703-0865.
An Sabin 1176 Sutter; (415) 929-1992.
AsiaSF 201 Ninth St; (415) 255-8889.
Atlas Cafe 3049 20th St; (415) 648-1047.
Backflip 601 Eddy; (415) 771-FLIP.
Baobab 3388 19th St; (415) 643-3558.
Bas 383 Bay; (415) 441-3885.
Beach Chalet 1000 Great Highway; (415) 386-8439.
Beauty Bar 2299 Mission; (415) 285-0323.
Big Heart City 836 Mission; (415) 777-0666.
Bimbo's 365 Club 1025 Columbus; (415) 474-0365.
Biscuits and Blues 401 Mason; (415) 292-2583.
Bistro E Europe 4901 Mission; (415) 469-5637.
Black Cat 501 Broadway; (415) 981-2233.
Blind Tiger 787 Broadway; (415) 788-4020.
Blue Lamp 561 Geary; (415) 885-1464.
Boom Boom Room 1601 Fillmore; (415) 673-8000.
Boomerang 1840 Haight; (415) 387-2996.
Bottom of the Hill 1233 17th St; (415) 621-4455.
Brainwash 1122 Folsom; (415) 255-4866.
Broadway Studios 435 Broadway; (415) 291-0933.
Bruno's 2389 Mission; (415) 648-7701.
Bubble Lounge 714 Montgomery; (415) 434-4204.
Butter 354 11th St; (415) 863-5964.
Butterfly 1710 Mission; (415) 864-5575.
Buzz 9 139 8th St; (415) 255-8783.
The Cafe 2367 Market; (415) 861-3846.
Café Claude 7 Claude; (415) 392-3505.
Cafe Cocomo 650 Indiana; (415) 824-6910.
Cafe du Nord 2170 Market; (415) 861-5016.
Cafe International 508 Haight; (415) 552-7390.
Cafe Niebaum-Coppola 916 Kearny; (415) 291-1700.
Carta 1760 Market; (415) 863-3516.
Cat Club 1190 Folsom; (415) 431-3332.
Cellar 685 Sutter; (415) 441-5678.
Cellar at Johnny Foley's 243 O'Farrell; (415) 522-0333.
Circadia 2727 Mariposa; (415) 552-2649.
City Nights 715 Harrison; (415) 546-7938.
Club Oeluxe 1509-11 Haight; (415) 552-6949.
Club NV 525 Howard; (415) 339-8686.
Club Six 60 Sixth St; (415) 863-1221.
Club Townsend 177 Townsend; (415) 974-1156.
Covered Wagon Saloon 917 Folsom; (415) 974-1585.
Cypress Club 500 Jackson; (415) 296-8555.
Oeluxe Club 770 Haight; (415) 559-7111.
Deuces 2319 Taraval; (415) 566-9122.
Eagle Tavern 398 12th St; (415) 626-0880.
Eastside West 3154 Fillmore; (415) 885-4000.
Edinburgh Castle 950 Geary; (415) 885-4074.
850 Cigar Bar 850 Montgomery; (415) 291-0850.
Elbo Room 647 Valencia; (415) 552-7788.
11:11 Lounge 1330 Polk; (415) 885-2652.
Endup 401 Sixth St; (415) 357-0827.
Enrico's 504 Broadway; (415) 982-6223.
Fillmore 1805 Geary; (415) 346-6000.
Fuse 493 Broadway; 788-2706.
Galaxy Club 1840 Haight; (415) 387-2996.
Gin Joint 312 Harriet; (415) 934-1655.
Glas Kat 520 Fourth St; (415) 495-6626.
Great American Music Hall 859 O'Farrell; (415) 885-0750.
Hi-Ball Lounge 473 Broadway; (415) 397-9464.
HiFi 2125 Lombard; (415) 345-TONE.
Holy Cow 1531 Folsom; (415) 621-6087.
Hotel Utah 500 Fourth St; (415) 546-6300.
House of Shields 39 New Montgomery; (415) 392-7732.
Hush Hush Lounge 496 14th St; (415) 241-9944.
Infusion 555 Second St; (415) 543-2282.
Ireland's 32 3920 Geary; (415) 386-6173.
Irish Bank 10 Mark Lane; (415) 788-7152.
Iron Horse 19 Maiden Lane; (415) 789-7899.
Java on Ocean 1700 Ocean; (415) 587-3126.
Jazz at Pearl's 256 Columbus; (415) 291-8255.
Jelly's 295 China Basin Way; (415) 495-3099.
Johnny Foley's 243 O'Farrell; (415) 954-0777.
Les Joulins 44 Ellis; (415) 397-5397.
Justice League 628 Divisadero; (415) 289-2038.
Kate O'Briens 579 Howard; (415) 882-7240.
Kimo's 1351 Polk; (415) 885-4535.
King Street Garage 174 King; (415) 665-6715.

Last Day Saloon 406 Clement; (415) 387-6343.
Lexington Club 3464 19th St; (415) 863-2052.
Liquid 2925 16th St; (415) 289-6833.
Lost and Found Saloon 1353 Grant; (415) 675-5996.
Lou's Pier 47 300 Jefferson; (415) 771-0377.
Luggage Store Gallery 1007 Market, Second fl; (415) 255-5971.
Mad Dog in the Fog 530 Haight; (415) 626-7279.
Make-Out Room 3225 22nd St; (415) 647-2888.
Mario's Bohemian 2209 Polk; (415) 776-8226.
Maritime Hall 450 Harrison; (415) 974-0634.
Metronome Ballroom 1830 17th St; (415) 252-9000.
Moose's 1652 Stockton; (415) 989-7800.
Movida Lounge 200 Fillmore; (415) 934-8637.
Mucky Duck 1315 Ninth Ave; (415) 661-4340.
Nickie's BBQ 460 Haight; (415) 621-6508.
Noe Valley Ministry 1021 Sanchez; (415) 454-5238.
O'Farrell Street Bar 800 Larkin; (415) 567-9326.
Old First Church 1751 Sacramento; (415) 474-1608.
111 Minna St. 111 Minna; (415) 974-1719.
One Market Restaurant 1 Market; (415) 777-5577.
Oxygen Bar 795 Valencia; (415) 255-2102.
Paradise Lounge 308 11th St; (415) 861-6906.
Peña del Sur 2870 22nd St; (415) 550-1101.
Piaf's 1686 Market; (415) 864-3700.
Pier 23 Pier 23; (415) 362-5125.
Plough and Stars 116 Clement; (415) 751-1122.
Plush Room 940 Sutter; (415) 885-2800.
Polly Esther's 181 Eddy; (415) 885-1977.
Pound-SF Pier 96, 100 Cargo; (415) 826-9202.
Pow! A Cocktail Lounge 101 Sixth St; (415) 278-0940.
The Ramp 855 China Basin; (415) 621-2378.
Rasselas 2801 California; (415) 567-5010.
Rawhide 280 Seventh St; (415) 820-1621.
Red Devil Lounge 1695 Polk; (415) 921-1695.
Redwood Room Cliff Hotel, 495 Geary; (415) 475-4700.
El Rio 3158 Mission; (415) 282-3325.
Ritz-Carlton 600 Stockton; (415) 296-7465.
Roccapulco 3140 Mission; 648-6611.
Rose Pistola 532 Columbus; (415) 399-0499.
Royale 1326 Grant; (415) 433-4247.
Ruby Skye 420 Mason; (415) 693-0777.
Sacrifice 800 South Van Ness; (415) 641-0990.
Saloon 1232 Grant; (415) 989-7666.
San Francisco Brewing Company 155 Columbus; (415) 434-3344.
Shanghai 1930 133 Steuart; (415) 896-5600.
Simple Pleasures Cafe 3434 Balboa; (415) 387-4022.
Skip's Tavern 453 Cortland; (415) 282-3456.
Slim's 333 11th St; (415) 522-0333.
Sno-Drift 1830 Third St; (415) 431-4766.
Sound Factory 525 Harrison; (415) 979-8686.
Space 550 550 Barneveld; (415) 550-8286.
Starlight Room Drake Hotel, 450 Powell; (415) 395-8595.
Stars 555 Golden Gate; (415) 861-7827.
Storyville 1751 Fulton; (415) 441-1751.
The Stud 399 Ninth St; (415) 252-7883.
Studio 435 435 Broadway; (415) 291-0333.
Tango Tango 1550 California; (415) 775-0442.
Tempest 431 Natoma; (415) 495-1863.
Ten 15 Folsom 1015 Folsom; (415) 385-1015.
330 Ritch 330 Ritch; (415) 541-9574.
Tongue and Groove 2513 Van Ness; (415) 928-0404.
The Top 424 Haight; (415) 864-7386.
Top of the Mark Mark Hopkins Intercontinental Hotel, 1 Nob Hill; (415) 616-6916.
Trapdoor 3251 Scott; (415) 776-1928.
26 Mix 3024 Mission; (415) 826-7378.
Up & Down Club 1151 Folsom; (415) 626-2388.
Velvet Lounge 443 Broadway; (415) 788-0228.
Venue 9 252 Ninth St; (415) 626-2169.
Voodoo Lounge 2937 Mission; (415) 285-3369.
Warfield 982 Market; (415) 775-7722.

Bay Area

Ashkenaz 1317 San Pablo, Berk; (510) 525-5054.
Baltic 135 Park Place, Point Richmond; (510) 235-2532.
Bison Brewing Company 2598 Telegraph, Berk; (510) 841-7734.
Blake's 2367 Telegraph, Berk; (510) 848-0886.
Bluesville 131 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 893-6215.
Caribee Dance Center 1408 Webster, Oakl; (510) 835-4006.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER PATRICK

The audience is watching: Vue — from left, Jeremy Andrew Bringetto, Jonah Buffa, Rex John Shelverton, and Jessica Ann Graves — play with the Lost Kids and the Cuts at Cafe du Nord Fri/27.

Cato's Ale House 3891 Piedmont, Oakl; (510) 655-3349.
Club Fusetti 815 West Francisco, San Rafael; (415) 459-6079.
Eli's Mile High Club 3629 MLK Jr. Way, Oakl; (510) 655-6661.
Fourth Street Tavern 711 Fourth St, San Rafael; (415) 454-4044.
Freight and Salvage 1111 Addison, Berk; (510) 548-1761.
H's Lordships 199 Seawall, Berk; (510) 843-2733.
Imusicast 5429 Telegraph, Oakl; (510) 601-1024.
Island Paradise Club 1436 Webster, Alameda; (510) 865-3225.
Ivy Room Solano at San Pablo, Albany; (510) 524-9299.
Jimmie's VIP Jazz Room 1731 San Pablo, Oakl; (510) 268-8444.
Jupiter 2181 Shattuck, Berk; (510) THE-ROCK.
Kimball's East 5800 Shellmound, Emeryville; (510) 658-2555.
New George's 842 Fourth St, San Rafael; (415) 457-1515.
19 Broadway 19 Broadway, Fairfax; (415) 459-1091.
924 Gilman 924 Gilman, Berk; (510) 525-9926.
Panache 639 E. Blithedale, Mill Valley; (415) 388-3493.
Paramount Theatre 2025 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 465-6400.
Pasand Lounge 2286 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 549-2559.
La Peña Cultural Center 3105 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 849-2568.
Peri's 29 Broadway, Fairfax; (415) 459-9910.
Port Lite 229 Brush, Oakl; (510) 451-0600.
Ruby Room 132 14th St, Oakl; (510) 444-7224.
Sanchez Concert Hall 1220 Linda Mar, Pacifica; (415) 355-1882.
Starry Plough 3101 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 841-2082.
Stork Club 2330 Telegraph, Oakl; (510) 444-6174.
Sweetwater 153 Throckmorton, Mill Valley; (415) 388-2820.
Tavern Grill 1448 Burlingame, Burlingame; (415) 344-5692.
Terrace Lounge Claremont Hotel, 41 Tunnel, Berk; (510) 549-8576.
Veterans Memorial Building 200 Grand, Oakl; (510) 238-3284.
Voulez Vous 2930 College, Berk; (510) 548-4708.
White Horse 6551 Telegraph, Oakl; (510) 652-3820.
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Thursday 26

From page 185

Bay Area

Pep Love record-release party *Bluesville*. 9pm, \$10. Come join the mighty Hieroglyphics crew as they celebrate the unleashing of Pep Love's latest LP, which has been under construction for nearly a decade. A member of Oakland's prominent underground collective since '91, the spiritually conscious rapper has seen his stock ascend to higher heights in recent years since his lyrical prose on Hiero's family affair 3rd Eye Vision began to create ice in the hearts of average MCs. To keep the fiesta vibe going throughout the night, Digital Underground's DJ Fuze and Local 1200 DJs Tim D and Namane will be in the house, setting the party off with new and classic hip-hop joints, soul jams, and dancehall riddims. (Gadd)

Pomegranate, Spinning Jennies, Wonderboy *Starry Plough*. 9:30pm, \$5.

60 Foot Time, The Mass, Uberkunst, members of *Theory of Ruin Stork Club*. 9pm, \$6.

Jazz/new music

Larry Douglas Quintet *Les Joulms*. 8pm.

Mike Lipskin and Waldo Carter *Moose's*. 8pm.

Mark Little Trio *Black Cat*. 9:30pm.

Al Marshall Trio *Argent Hotel*, 50 Third St.; 974-6400. 8:30pm.

Jason Myers *Houston's*, 1800 Montgomery; 392-9280. 6pm.

Larry Diemo *The Piano*, 1092 Post; 771-2022. 8:30pm.

Steve Ross *Plush Room*, York Hotel; 885-2800. 8pm, \$25.

Tony Saunders's Jazz Trio *John's Grill*, 63 Ellis; 986-0069. 6:30-10pm.

Bay Area

Marcus Shelby Jazz Orchestra *Clock Tower Plaza*, 180 El Camino Real, Palo Alto; 788-7353. 6pm.

Sean Thornton Johnson *Borders Books and Music*, 5903 Shellmound, Emeryville; (510) 654-1633. 8-10pm.

Folk/world/country

Acoustic Open Mic *Sacred Grounds Cafe*, 2095 Hayes; 387-3859. 7:30pm.

Mazacote Elbo Room. 10pm, \$6.

Lucinda Williams *Warfield*. 8pm, \$25-28.50. Also Fri/27.

Bay Area

Once *Civic Center Plaza*, adjacent to 12th Street BART station, Oakl; (510) 628-8490. 5-6:30pm, free.

Radney Foster, Darden Smith *Freight and Salvage*. 8pm, \$16.50-17.50.

Super Rail Band *Ashkenaz*. 9pm, \$16.

Dance clubs

Anthem *Maritime Hall Lounge*, 375 First St; (650) 568-1338. 9pm-2am, \$5-10. "Retro-rave" with rotating residents.

Arabian Nights *El Rio*. 9pm. Arabian dance music with a performance by Amira.

Astral Traveling *Make-Out Room*. 10pm, \$5. James Higuchi spins dance music.

Benefit Butter. 6-9pm. With Frenchy Le Freak.

Big Takeover *Storyville*. 10pm, \$8-10. Jahyzer and Ted Shred spin dancehall and hip-hop.

Circuit Breaker *Fuse*, 493 Broadway; 788-2706. 10pm-2am. Centipede, Bre-ad, Joe Rice, and Oze spin downtempo, funk, and hip-hop.

El Rio. 11pm. A special performance with Ultra Gypsy and DJ Nader.

Ezekiel Bohemia Bar, 1624 California; 474-6968. 10pm-2am, \$3. William and Satva spin hip-hop and dancehall.

Faith City Nights. 9:30pm, \$10. With residents Blackstone, Ruben Mancias, Jay-R, and Twist.

Foxy Lady Lounge *Pow! A Cocktail Lounge*. 9pm-2am, \$2. With Neil N. Kizmiat.

Fudge Sacrifice. 10pm-2am, \$3. JB spins hip-hop.

lg-nite *Amnesia*. 8:30pm-2am, \$3-5. Breaks and nu step with residents Chika and Dov.

Joypad DNA Lounge, 375 11th St; 789-7690. 9pm-2am.

Kit Kat Endup. 10pm, \$12. International funk.

Meow *Glas Kat*. 10pm-2am, \$10. Urban grooves, hip-hop, and R&B with Switch.

1984 Cat Club. 9pm. '80s music.

Popscore *330 Rich*. 10pm-2am, \$5. Britpop with Aaron Axelsen and Jeremy.

Reform School *The Stud*. 10pm-4am. With resident DJs Big Red Spun and Poppa Monkeyboy.

Royale. 9:30pm-2am. DJs Vinnie Esparza, Asti Spumanti, and Sloppy J.

Solid Light, 839 Geary; 474-3216. 10pm-2am. House and 2 step with Monty Luke and guest Eihan Miller.

Soulness *Hush Hush Lounge*. 9:30pm-2am, \$4. DJ Goldmyne and English Steve spin vintage soul and R&B.

Subculture *Venture Frogs*, 1000 Van Ness; 409-2550. 9pm-1am. With Zagnut, Dubla, Dirty Frank, Fade, and DSP.

26 Mix *10am-2pm*. Bored Collective featuring DJs Jonah Sharp, Anon, and Velocette.

Vault Club 238, 238 Columbus; 434-1308. 10pm. With Slick D and David Garcia.

What Da Funk *Nickie's BBQ*. 9pm-2am. DJ Motion Potion spins old-school funk and rare grooves.

Worldwide Lounge *Royale*. 9:30pm-2am.

Bay Area

Beatdown *Jupiter*. 8pm. Outdoor DJ dance party with Delon, Yamu, and Add One.

Digital Club *Fusetti*. 11pm. With Darryl K and Ben E.B.

Hatcha *Bison Brewing Company*. 9:30pm-2am. Dance music with Ken Q.

Psychotica *Blakes*. 9:30pm, \$5. Jungle.

Radio 435 13th St, Oakl; (510) 451-2889. 10pm-2am. Metal night.

Soundboutique *Ivy Room*. 10pm. With residents Jen, Jacob, and Sean.

Classical

San Francisco Symphony *Davies Hall*, San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center, 401 Van Ness, Ste 110; 864-6000. 8pm, \$15-54. Pianist Chiao-Ying Chang and the S.F. Symphony perform music by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Rimsky-Korsakov, and Stravinsky.

friday 27

Rock/blues/hip-hop

AC/D-She, Mutilador *Kimo's*. 9pm.

Add N to X, Topsy *Bottom of the Hill*. 10pm, \$12.

Casino Royale, Zooma Zooma, Vise Grip *Bimbo's*. 9pm, \$18.

Dilute, Deerhoof, Crime in Choir *Edinburgh Castle*. 10pm.

Dreamspeak *Last Day Saloon*. 9pm, free.

George and the Wonders *Johnny Foley's*. 9pm, free.

Human Life Index, Boomshanka *Paradise Lounge*. 8:30pm.

Lica Sto, Planting Seeds, Tenfold, Hellfire Choir, Minus *Pound-SF*. 8pm, \$10.

Little John, Darling Clementines, First Man *Voodoo Lounge*. 9:30pm, \$6.

Mermen, Mushroom, That One Guy Slim's. 9pm, \$12-14.

Mother Hips, Minibar, M. Ward *Fillmore*. 9pm, \$15.

Oscar Myers's Bluesbeat *Boom Boom Room*. 9:15pm, \$10.

Nubs, Lisafer, Ghosts *Covered Wagon Saloon*. 6pm, \$3.

Pep Love *Amoeba Music*. 6pm, free.

Raw Deluxe *Black Cat*. 9:30pm.

Robert Walter's 20th Congress, Will Bernard and Motherbug *Great American Music Hall*. 9pm, \$15-25. Also Sat/28.

Brittany Safranek *7th Note Club*, 915 Columbus; 921-CLUB. 8:30pm, \$7.

Vinyl *Elbo Room*. 10pm, \$7.

Vue, Lost Kids, Cuts *Cafe Du Nord*. 10:30pm, \$7.

Bay Area

Gay Barbarians, Zmrlna, Heliotrope *Starry Plough*. 9:45pm, \$6.

Mark Hummel and the Blues Survivors *Ivy Room*. 10pm, \$5.

Nut Brown, Mark Growden's Acoustic Pinata, Majesty's Monkey *Stork Club*. 10pm, \$6.


Jill Scott *Greck Theatre*, UC Berkeley, Gayley Road and Stadium Rim Way, Berk; (510) 954-0850. 8pm.

Otis Taylor with Kenny Passarelli and Eddie Turner *Freight and Salvage*. 8pm, \$16.50.

Sexfresh *Jupiter*. 8pm.

Sol Americano, Color of Funk *Blakes*. 9:30pm, \$5.

Continued on page 190



DNA LOUNGE

july	26 thu	blasthaus presents joypad	JAZZ COLLECTIVE (norway) - laird - oliver goss - capitol A • UP: gregory - gray - phreakinik - dsp 9pm - 2am • \$5 < 10:30; \$7 after
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	28 sat	jito presents om	MARK FARINA (exclusive sf residency) - john howard - dj fluid - dj abstract - monty luke - mike bee 10pm - after hours • \$15
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	03 fri	n:code	ghreg - loveprojectors - ritter gluck 10pm - after hours • \$10 < 11; \$15 after
	04 sat	shattered	live performance: PLAYIN' 4 THE CITY (paris) jéréné - tasho - solar - galen 10pm - after hours • \$15 presented by panhandle records & pacific sound
	08/09 08/11 08/15	titonton duvante, jon tejada spun & dragn'fly (orbit) zenith nader (groovefactory)	08/16 the troublemakers (joypad - FRANCE) 08/18 rowan blades aka breeder (red square) 08/23 nortec collective (joypad - TIJUANA)

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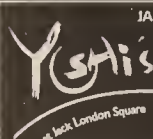
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music

calendar

rock, jazz, folk/world,
dance clubs & classical

Friday 27

From page 188

Jazz/new music

Maye Cavallaro Piaf's. 1686 Market; 864-3700. 8pm, \$15.
Chris Huson Moose's. 8pm.
Jason Myers Houston's, 1800 Montgomery; 392-9280. 6pm.
Larry Oleno The Piano, 1092 Post; 771-2022. 8:30pm.
Holly Penfield Quartet Shanghai 1930. 7pm, free. Also Sat/21.
Steve Ross Plush Room, York Hotel; 885-2800. 8pm, \$25.
Tony Saunders's Jazz Trio John's Grill, 63 Ellis; 986-0069. 6:30-10pm.
Ricardo Scalas Argent Hotel, 50 Third St; 974-6400. 8:30pm.
Charles Unger Experience with Valencia Les Joulins. 8pm.

Bay Area

Jimmy Smith Kimball's East. 8 and 10pm. Also Sat/28.

Folk/world/country

Byron Lee and the Oragonaires, Leon Cordero, DJ Omar, Clique International Sound System Cathedral Hill Hotel, 1101 Van Ness; (866) 468-3399. 8pm, \$35-45. Caribbean Summer Fest.
Maria Marquez, Robin Lewis, Murray Low, Gerry Grosz Old First Church. 8pm.
Lucinda Williams Warfield. 8pm, \$25-28.50.

Bay Area

Ali Khan Band, Scott Huckabay Ashkenaz. 8pm, \$15. Benefit for Musicians for Medical Marijuana.
Mad Hannans 19 Broadway. 9pm, \$10.
Rafael Manriquez La Peña Cultural Center. 8pm.

Dance clubs

Assimilate 2001 Cat Club. 9:30pm-3am. With DJs Damon and Viper.
Bohemia Bar 1624 California; 474-6968. 10pm-2am, \$10. Hip-hop with DJ Qwest.
Candy Sacrifice 10pm-2am, \$5. Hip-hop, rock, and new wave with Spin and Grand T.
Cellar at Johnny Foley's 9pm. DJ dance party with Twelve Monkeys.
Club NV 9:30pm. House and salsa with Greg Lopez, Von, and Tony O.
Club Nzinga El Rio. 9pm, \$7. Jose Ruiz spins world beat.
Club Rise The Stud. 10pm-3am. With resident DJs Olga T. and Black.
Electromagnetic 26 Mix. 10pm-2am. With Eric Riggsbee, DJ F versus Clutch, XJS, Linzee, and Frogger.
Fag Fridays Endup. 10pm-5:30am, \$8. With residents Rolo and Ruben Mancias.
FIVE 330 Ritch. 6pm. Happy hour with T-Love and Dan. 10pm, \$10. Soul, R&B, dancehall.
Funky Fridays Nickie's BBQ. 9pm, \$7. Wisdom and Cyrus spin funk and soul.
Future Fridays Maritime Hall Lounge, 375 First; 281-0777. 9pm-2am, \$10-15. Trance.
Glitter Glas Kat. 9:30pm-2am. Soul and deep house.
Hai Karate Hush Hush Lounge. 9pm-2am, \$5. With Neel N. Kizmaz and Claire Ahil.
House of Voodoo Big Heart City. 9pm. Deathrock with DJs Voodoo and Perki, featuring guest DJ Rick A. Mortis.
Luscious Club Six. 8pm. Deep tribal and hard house.
Mi Casa Border Cantina, 1198 Folsom; 626-0414. 10pm-4am. Featuring John Howard, Lalo, Tee, Dmitri, and Divalona.
Move to the Groove Cafe Cocomo. 9pm-1:30am, \$12. With DJ Sammi.
New Noise The Top. 7:30-9:30pm. Jamaican music. 9:30pm-2am, \$5. House and techno.
Nikita Ten 15 Folsom. 10pm, \$15.
No Categories 111 Minna. 9pm-2am, \$6-8. Featuring Seiji, Andrew Jervis, and Vinnie Esparza. See "Broken/Not Broken" page 173.

Pow! A Cocktail Lounge 6pm, \$3. Tribal house and Latin music with Be Smiley.
Satellite Light, 839 Geary; 552-1346. 5-10pm, \$4. Techno happy hour with Kylene, Chameleon, and Brian Cox. 10pm-2am, \$5. With residents Scott Carrelli and John Schiffer and guests.
Serenity Lounge Venture Frogs, 1000 Van Ness; 409-2550. 10pm-2am, \$8. Jamie Means and Von spin downtempo and house.
Sojourn Rohan Lounge. 9pm-2am. Progressive house and beats with residents Ted Shred and Fred.
Soulful Strut Annesia. 10pm-2am, \$5. With DJs Vinnie Esparza and Goldmyne.
Space 550 10am-6am. Featuring Derrick Carter, DJ Dazy, Iz, Samo, Laird, Garth, Laron, Dfunky, and N8 Castro.
Square Ruby Skye. 9pm-3am. House music.
Stir Friday 111 Minna St. 5:30-9pm, \$3.
Dance music with Jason Fluid and Maneesh the Twister and guest Ross Maupin.
Sweet Blind Tiger. 10pm-2am, \$5. With Norman Stradley and Sherif.

Bay Area

Funk Fridays Conscious Dance Party Eli's Mile High Club. 10pm-2am. Split Skankin and Funky Man spin reggae and funk.
Radio 435 13th St, Oakl; (510) 451-2889. 10pm-2am. Glam, rock, and pop from the '70s and '80s.
Ruby Room 10pm-2am. '70s and '80s glam rock and pop music.

Classical

San Francisco Symphony Davies Hall, San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center, 401 Van Ness, Suite 110; 864-6000. 8pm, \$15-54. Pianist Kevin Cole and baritone Jubilant Sykes perform music by Copland, Gershwin, Rodgers, and Sondheim.

Bay Area

Midsummer Mozart Festival Gould Theatre, California Palace of the Legion of Honor, 34th Ave and Clement; (866) 468-3399. 7:30pm, \$32. The San Francisco Opera, San Francisco Symphony, and Nontime Concerts join forces in this festival dedicated to Mozart.
George Cleve conducts today's program, featuring clarinetist Mark Brandenburg and violinist Robin Hansen. Through Sat/28.
Piedmont Light Opera Theater Alan Harvey Theater, Piedmont High School, 800 Magnolia, Piedmont; (925) 798-1300. 8pm, \$12-17. The opera theater presents its rendition of Cole Porter's *Kiss Me Kate*. Through Sat/28.

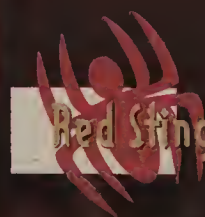
saturday 28

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Blast, Bimbo Toolshed, Fleshties, Nigel Peppercock Covered Wagon Saloon. 9:30pm, \$8.
Box Set, Rachel Garlin Slin's. 9pm, \$13-14.
Faye Carol Boom Boom Room. 9:15pm, \$10.
Charlatans U.K., Mover Binbo's. 9pm, \$20.
Oerhoof, Xiu Xiu, Bevin from Blectum From Blechdom, Total Shutdown, Owls, Papercuts Cafe Du Nord. 8pm, \$7. Benefit for land mine removal. See 8 Days a Week, page 182.
Gene Oelcon, Blast Rocks, Gravy Train Kimo's. 9:30pm.
86, Sonny Smith Ivy Room. 10pm, \$5.
Funhouse, E8Lux, Blue Period Paradise Lounge. 10pm, \$10. The bands perform at Glitz.
Garaj Mahal Justice League. 9pm, \$12.
Nobody from Ipanema Elba Room. 10pm, \$7.
Jonathan Richman, Poundsign, Fairways Bottom of the Hill. 10pm, \$10.
Robert Walter's 20th Congress, Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey Great American Music Hall. 9pm, \$15-25.
Joe Strummer Amoeba Music. 2pm, free.
Suite 304 Canvas Cafe, 1200 Ninth Ave; 504-0070. 9pm, free.
Tainted Love Last Day Saloon. 9pm, \$10.
Ticket to Ride Johnny Foley's. 9pm, free.
Tincture Make-Out Room. 8pm. CD-release party.

Continued on page 193

once stung, never shy.



2 parts Smirnoff® Vodka
1 part Triple Sec
1 part Sweet & Sour Mix
3 parts Cranberry Juice

serve with lime over ice

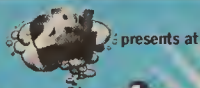
Please release the spirit responsibly.

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SUN 8/19

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HOLIDAY IN THE SUN

FRI 8/24

SHAM 69 • THE EXPLOITED

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SUN 8/26

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+ 8/3: THE MUMPS
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Saturday 28

From page 190

Bay Area

John Tchical's Infinitesimal Flash Quartet featuring Francis Wong, Adam Lane's Full Throttle Orchestra Starry Plough. 9:45pm, \$6. Ray's Vast Basement, Fistsners, Little John, Run for Cover Lovers, Love Kills Love, Dork.com, Inch Connecticut, Jules Worsley and friends, Red Top Road Stork Club. 10pm, \$6. "X-Mass in July" party. Solemite Blakes. 9:30pm, \$5.

Jazz/new music

Maye Cavallaro Pinf's. 1686 Market; 864-3700. 10pm, \$10.
Robin Hodes's Apollo Jazz Group Jelly's. 4-8pm.
Jeanne Hoffman Moose's. 8pm.
Al Marshall Trio Argent Hotel, 50 Third St; 974-6400. 8:30pm.
Jason Myers Houston's, 1800 Montgomery; 392-9280. 6pm.
'Northbeach Jazz Festival' Coit Tower, 1 Telegraph Hill; 771-2061 or www.nbjazzfest.org. 12:30-5pm, \$30. See Critic's Choice.
Larry Oleno The Piano, 1092 Post; 771-2022. 8:30pm.
Holly Penfield Quartet Shanghai 1930. 7pm, free.
Steve Ross Phish Room, York Hotel; 885-2800. 8pm, \$25.
Tony Saunders's Jazz Trio John's Grill, 63 Ellis; 986-0069. 6:30-10pm.
Mark Turner Black Cat. 9:30pm.
Ronald Wilson Quintet Les Jouliens. 8pm.

Bay Area

Regina Carter Quintet Osher Marin JCC, Swig Field, 200 N San Pedro, San Rafael; (415) 444-8000. 8pm.
Corner Pocket Jupiter. 8pm.
Dena DeRose Campbell Recital Hall, Stanford University, Stanford; (650) 736-0324. 8pm.
Stanford Jazz Festival 2001.
'Fifth Annual Cline Cellars Wine and Jazz Festival' Cline Cellars, 24737 Hwy 121, Sonoma; (800) 546-2070. \$20.
Jimmy Smith Kimball's East. 8 and 10pm.

Folk/world/country

Andy Narell Group Noe Valley Ministry. 8:15pm.
Buttermilk Channel Atlas Cafe. 4-7pm, free.
Byung-ki Hwang Asian Art Museum Trustees' Auditorium, 75 Tea Garden Dr, Golden Gate Park; 379-8800. 8pm, \$5-12. Traditional Korean music.
San Francisco Arts Commission/San Francisco Symphony Davies Hall, San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center, 401 Van Ness, Suite 110; 864-6000. 8pm, \$15-30. The Eileen Ivers Band performs.
'Polk Street Festival 2001: Urban Oasis' Polk, between Jackson and Bush; 383-3470. 10am-6pm. Brazilian, blues, swing, jazz, and island music. Through Sun/29.
Toots and the Maytals, Everton Blender Maritime Hall. 9pm, \$20-22.

Bay Area

'Afriibbean 2001' Castro Street, Downtown Mountain View; (650) 964-2056. 11am-8pm. Afro-Caribbean, Afro-Latin, and African music and cultural festival. Through Sun/29.
Hot Buttered Rum Cato's Ale House. 6-9pm.
Sara Klotz de Aguilar 21 Grand, 21 Grand, Oakl; (510) 444-7265. 8pm, \$5-10.
Motordude Zydeco, Brass Monkey Ashkenaz. 9:30pm, \$11.
Rompe y Raja La Peña Cultural Center. 8:30pm.
'Seventh Annual Fat Fry Music Festival' Aptos Village Park, Santa Cruz; (831) 420-2800. 11am-7pm, \$28-32. Through Sun/29. See 8 Days a Week, page 182.
Street Sounds Freight and Salvage. 8pm, \$15.50-16.50.

Continued on page 194

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FRIDAY JULY 27TH 2001

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THU 7/26 9:30 \$6
Fri 7/27 10:00 \$12
Sat 7/28 10:00 \$10
Sun 7/29 4:00 \$6
Mon 7/30 9:30 \$7
Tue 7/31 9:00 \$6

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LEAN

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SHUGGIE

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TILL 7 YEARS PASS OVER HIM
LOW FLYING OWLS

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Bottom of the Hill's make'em happy HOUR
weekdays 3-7 pm

music calendar

Saturday 28

From page 193

Dance clubs

Backflip 10pm, \$5. House music.
Bay'siks The Top. 7pm-10pm. With J Falcone, John Paul, Fiction, Dom Some, and Enzyme.
Bohemia Bar 1624 California; 474-6968. 10pm-2am, \$10. House, hip-hop, and '80s music with Eddy.
Bottom Heavy The Top. 10pm-2am. U.K. garage and drum 'n' bass with rotating residents.
Cellar at Johnny Foley's 9pm. DJ dance party with DJ Neo.
Cheetah Cellar. 9:30pm-2am. Dance music with Jerry Ross, Mind Motion, and others.
Cherry Club 238. 10pm-5am. With DJs John Williams, Charlotte the Baroness, Greg Ever-soul, and Seven.
Double Barreled 26 Mix. 9pm-2am. With Kevin Jayson and guests.
Eklektic Cat Club 10pm-3am. Drum 'n' bass with residents.
Excess Club 238, 238 Columbus; 434-1308. 9pm-6am, \$15. With Pablo, Demilo, Ben Doren, Booker, and Hemming.
Flava Storyville 10pm, \$8-10. Hip-hop with rotating residents.
Floor Twenty Asia SF. 10pm-3am. Hip-hop, dancehall, R&B, soul, and reggae.
Fusion Blackthorn Tavern, 834 Irving; 564-6627. 9pm-2am, \$10. Deep house, progressive trance, retro '80s, and top 40.
Glitz Paradise Lounge. 10pm-3am. Rock.
Lifted Soul HiFi. 9pm. Deep house with Dwight Johnson.
Lights Out Light, 839 Geary; 474-3216. 6-10pm. Funk music with residents Jason Douglas and Rogue and rotating guests.
10pm-2am, \$10. Progressive house and trance with Taj.
Manuva Social Club Hush Hush Lounge. 10pm-4am. Funk, soul, hip hop, and dancehall.
OM DNA Lounge, 375 11th St; 626-1409. Featuring Mark Farina, John Howard, and DJ Fluid.
Pow! A Cocktail Lounge 9pm, \$3. House music with Fadrian and Sutake.
Remedy Big Heart City. 9pm-4am. House, soul, and R&B with residents.
San Francisco Butter 9pm. With rotating residents Lele, Dano, JZ, David Coleman, and Sen-sei.
Seoul-phisticated Rohan Lounge. 9pm-2am. Dub and rare grooves with DJ Choe.
Sister 26 Mix. 10am. Neuro-funk and house.
Stone Soul Saturday Nickie's BBQ. 9pm-2am. Kevin and George spin disco, funk, and soul.
Supastar Sacrifice. 10pm-2am, \$5. With local DJs.
Texture Glas Kat. 9:30pm-2am. Latin, house, and hip-hop with residents.
Universe Club Townsend. 9:30pm-7am, \$14. House music with guest DJ Abel.

Bay Area

Fusetti's Saturday Night Club Fusetti. 10pm. Rimshot Bench and Bar, 120 11th St; (510) 839-0580. 9pm, \$6-8. Hip-hop, R&B, house, and reggae.
Shelter Chibbo Bar and Grill, 920 University, Berk; (510) 496-2718. Reggae, dancehall, hip hop, lingala, and soul.
Supersonic Boom Radio, 435 13th St, Oakl; (510) 451-2889. 10pm-2am.
Total Package Zazoos, 15 Embarcadero West, Jack London Square, Oakl; (510) 760-5879. 9:30pm. Hip-hop, R&B, reggae, and dancehall.

Classical

Midsummer Mozart Festival First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing, Berk; (866) 468-3399. 7:30pm, \$32. See Fri/27.

Continued on page 197

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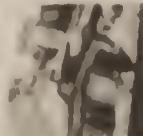
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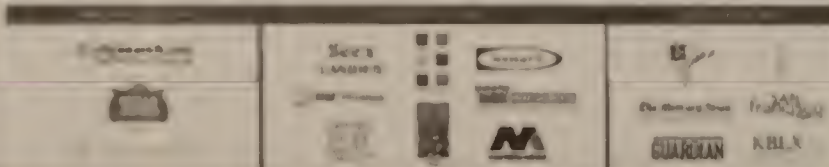
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GUEST DJS OLIVIER ST.DENIS, HENRIK LIBREO
HENRY NAVARRO & LAUREN TORRESOLA
PLUS ROTATING RESIDENTS FROM BEATFARM & ELECTROGUSTO!

Thursday July 26
5150
FEATURING ELLEN FERRATO
PLUS RESIDENTS ALMIR & DJ MFR
GREG & STEPH'S HAPPY HOUR 6-10PM
FEATURING LIVE DJS & DRINK SPECIALS

Friday July 27
"HUNGRY"
FEATURING SIMON DK (OIV), MAD MARJ (TWEEDIN RECORDS) TALL PAUL (TWEEDIN RECORDS)

Saturday July 28
AFTERNOON (NOON-6:30PM)
WITH ROTATING RESIDENTS
BLAKE MATTHEW, BEN DAVIS & BRIAN THOMAS
"PLUMP" 9pm-2am
FEATURING MARALE (WICKED)
WITH RESIDENTS PAUL GUIDO & TIM O'CONNOR

Sunday July 29
FAME 4-2am
FAME PRESENTS FREEDOM
Featuring MIGUEL MIGS, MAURICIO, FOXKEE, PATRICK WILSON, FILTHY RICH, & RASOUL

Tuesday July 31
ORANGEAGE PRESENTS **"FRIZAR"**
SPINNING PROGRESSIVE HOUSE & TRANCE
FEATURING SPECIAL WEEKLY PROJECTION ARTISTS

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AUGUST 1 doors 7 / show 7:30

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Charge by phone: (415) 421-TIXS • (408) 998-TIXS

All dates, acts, and ticket prices are subject to change without notice.
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Disabled seating available at all ticket centers. Eight ticket limit per person. A Clear Channel Event.

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THE FILLMORE 1805 GEARY (AT FILLMORE), SAN FRANCISCO
SHOW INFO: 415-346-6000
www.thefillmore.com

an evening with
Warren Zevon & His Band

THIS THURSDAY!

Thursday, July 26
doors 8/show 9

MOTHER HIPS

THIS FRIDAY!

FRIDAY JULY 27
doors 8 ~ show 9

MINIBAR M.WARD

get tickets at sfx.com

Tickets available online at www.ticketmaster.com, and at all outlets, including Tower Records, Warehouse Music, Ritmo Latino, select Rite Aid stores and at The Fillmore box office on Sundays and show nights.
Charge by phone: (415) 421-TIXS • (408) 998-TIXS

All dates, acts, and ticket prices are subject to change without notice.
A service charge is added to each ticket price. Visa, MC accepted.
Disabled seating available at all ticket centers.
Eight ticket limit per person.

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Wed 7/25
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W/ ROTATING RESIDENT HOUSE DJS JP SOUL, DAMON BURNS & PETE STULL
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Sound By Moon Rise

Thurs 7/26
Stinky's Peepshow
Doors 9:30pm/ \$6
SLENDER CAPTURED BY ROBOTS
THE SUPERBEES
Peepshow: FELICITY'S ELECTRIC TITTIES

Fri 7/27
Happy Hour Show 6pm \$3
THE NUBS
LISAFAIR (L.A.)
THE GHOST

10pm-2am Sixteen Presents
BORDELLO
In The Front Room:
DJ MARGOT (DARK SPARKLE) & OMAR
In The Back Room:
DJ PANDORA

Sat 7/28
Doors 9pm/ \$7
Alcoholocaust Presents:
BLAST (SANTA CRUZ)
BIMBO TOOLSHED
FLESHES
NIGEL PEPPERCOCK

Sun 7/29
Doors 4pm/ Show 5pm \$5
THE TEXAS THIEVES
THE PROCESS

Tue 7/31
Lucifers Hammer Presents
HAIL SATAN
SANGRE AMADO
MULTIPLY

Coming Soon:

Thurs 8/2 - Stinky's Peepshow: TBA
GENTLEMEN JIM & THE LI'L BASTARDS
THE RADIO REELERS

Fri 8/3 - Happy Hour Show
CRUEVO
THE SLEEZE BAND

music calendar

From page 194

sunday 29

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Bastard Noise, Spastic Colon, Creation Is Crucifixion, Kalmex and the Riff Merchants *Kimo's*, 8pm.
Business, Agnostic Front, F-Minus, Resilience *Slim's*, 8pm, \$10-12.
Cohen's House of Fun Funk Sessions *Last Day Saloon*, 9pm, free. Hosted by Jason of the Funknauts.
Tony McMahon *Johnny Foley's*, 9pm, free.
Tree o' Frogs *Boom Boom Room*, 9:15pm, \$3.
Vader, Skinless, Origin, Impaled, Garden of Shadows, Withered Earth *Pound-SF*, 6pm, \$15. Summertime Slaughter Tour.
Julietta Venegas, Geggry Tah *Great American Music Hall*, 8pm, \$15.
Visitor Jim, Yellow Five, 20 Minute Loop, Rubber Soul, Gun and Doll Show, Lean Bottom of the Hill, 4pm, \$7.

Bay Area

R. Kelly, Sunshine Anderson, Syleena Johnson *Chronicle Pavilion*, 2000 Kirker Pass, Concord; (925) 363-5701, 7pm.

Jazz/new music

Dave Casini Quartet *Canvas Café*, 1200 Ninth Ave; 504-0060, 7-10pm, free.
Ezra Gale Quartet *Albion*, 3139 16th St; 552-8558, 6pm.
Mike Greensill and friends *Moose's*, 7:30pm.
Jeanne Hoffman *Moose's*, 12:30pm.
Love Motel Jazz Quintet *Rasselas*, 1534 Fillmore; 346-8696, 6pm.
Jason Myers Trio *Houston's*, 1800 Montgomery; 392-9280, 6pm.
Larry Oleno *The Piano*, 1092 Post; 771-2022, 4:30pm.
'Northbeach Jazz Festival' *SF Art Institute*, 800 Chestnut; 771-2061 or www.nbjazzfest.org, 9pm, \$10-12. Featuring Marcus Shelby Jazz Orchestra. See Critic's Choice.
'SIMM Music Series 2001' *Musicians Union Hall*, 116 Ninth St; 905-4425, 7:30pm, \$8-10. Experimental, new sonic music by Off Ramp and Vortex Project II.
Steve Ross *Plush Room, York Hotel*; 885-2800, 3pm, \$25.
Tony Saunders's Jazz Trio *John's Grill*, 63 Ellis; 986-0069, 6:30-10pm.
Ted Shafer's Dixieland Jazz Band *Les Joulins*, 8pm.
Vesuvio Jazz Jam with Shan Kenner *Vesuvio*, 255 Columbus; 362-3370, 4pm.

Bay Area

Dori and Dave *19 Broadway*, 4:30-8pm.
Lily Tung with special guests *Jazzschool*, 2375 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 843-1535.
19 Swing Band *19 Broadway*, 9pm.
'Sunday Jazz Jam Session' *Bluesville*, 131 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 893-6215, 7pm.

Folk/world/country

Arte y Compás *Timo's Restaurant*, 842 Valencia; 647-0558, 7:30 and 9pm.
Lo'Jo, Les Yeux Noirs *Stern Grove*, 19th Ave and Sloat; 252-6252, 2pm.
'Polk Street Festival 2001: Urban Oasis' *Polk*, between Jackson and Bush; 383-3470, 10am-6pm. See Sat/28.
Record-release party for Strong Foundation *Elbo Room*, 9pm, \$5. Featuring Jah Yzer, Ces One, and DJ Sep.

Bay Area

'Afriibbean 2001' *Castro Street, Downtown Mountain View*; (650) 964-2056, 11am-8pm. See Sat/28.
Moh Alileche *La Peña Cultural Center*, 7:30pm.
El Hadj N'Diaye *Ashkenaz*, 9pm, \$10. See 8 Days a Week, page 182.
Tish Hinojosa *Freight and Salvage*, 8pm, \$17.50-18.50.

Continued on page 198

THE VOODOO LOUNGE
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT • SUSHI TILL 1AM • FULL BAR

THURSDAY...JULY 26
MOTORGIRL PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
austin willacy

FRIDAY...JULY 27
MOTORGIRL PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
darling clementines
little john • high harse
9:30pm...\$6 cover

SATURDAY...JULY 28
MOTORGIRL PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
jethra jeremia band
raux

SUNDAY...JULY 29
MOTORGIRL PRODUCTIONS
JAMBASE PRESENTS
"jam pagoda"
dexter grave
8 pm...\$5 cover

MONDAY...JULY 30...LITHIUM
live drum and bass

TUESDAY...JULY 31...TEN FOUR
dj lauren li

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Two Sound Systems / Food & Beverage / DJs, Live Bands, Performers

SUNDAY
July 29, 2001
NOON - 6PM

See Page 157!

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The Best of the Bay

DOCTOR BOMBAY'S

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AROUND THE CORNER
AND OFF THE BEATEN PATH

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6PM-8:30PM DAILY
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WED 7/25
WAVE MANIPULATION
HIP HOP, R&B, REGGAE, DANCEHALL WITH DJ'S SCOTTY HILL, DENBERG D, SMITHROCK, Y&B, Z&B & J&A \$5/10PM

THURS 7/26
BIG TAKEOVER AND GIANT SWING
REGGAE, R&B, HIP HOP, TOP DOG, AND TYPER
HIP HOP, R&B, REGGAE, TOP DOG, L&A, AND CONSUMED
OPEN FOR DINNER & COCKTAILS AT 7PM. GUESTLIST INFO @ WWW.STORYVILLE.SF.COM \$10/10PM

FRI 7/27
TRUE SKOOL
LIVE PERFORMANCE BY FOREIGN LEGION, WITH DJ'S CLOCKWORK, COOP D'VILLE, BEN THE VINYL ARCH AROGAST & JAHIE HILL.
INFO AT WWW.TRUE-SKOOL.ORG \$10/9PM

SAT 7/28
DINNER AND COCKTAILS WITH
TRANSMISSION TRIO
NO COVER / 7PM


THE FLAVA!
A ROTATION OF THE CITY'S BEST HIP HOP DJ'S
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PEP LOVE
in support of the new CD "Ascension"
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SAT, JULY 28TH - 2PM
JOE STRUMMER
in support of the new Joe Strummer
& The Mescaleros CD "Global A Go-Go" - on Hellcat Records!

TUES, JULY 31ST - 5PM
MYSTIC
in support of the new CD "Cuts
for Luck and Scars for Freedom"
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FRIDAY AUGUST 3RD - 6PM
BORED STIFF

SAT, AUG 11TH - 2 PM
BRASS MONKEY

SAT, AUG 18TH - 2PM
LEN PATERSON TRIO
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on the ground
I walk

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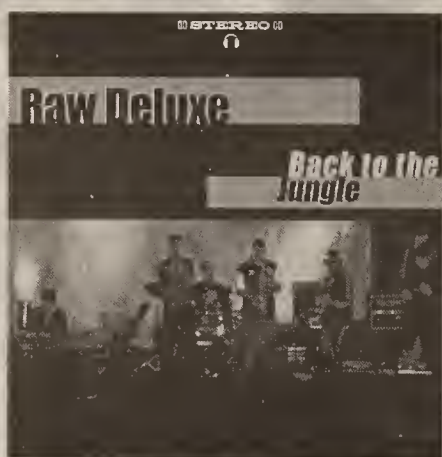
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Don't miss Hydeus live at the
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JAZZ DIVAS night on Monday
July 30th & also at her CD
Release Party at Rasselas on
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Friday
7/27



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with special guest
Pina Kollars

August 1
doors 8/show 9

Saturday August 4

doors 8
show 9

patti smith

august 7 & 8

doors 8
show 9

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Charge by phone: (415) 421-TIXS • (408) 998-TIXS
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Goddess Entertainment Presents

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100 Cargo Way, Pier 98
San Francisco • 415 826-5009
Friday, July 27th
All Ages doors 8/show 9

LIQASTO
PLANTING SEEDS • TEN FOLD
HELLFIRE CHOIR • MINUS

BOURBON STREET
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Concord • 925 676-7272
Saturday, July 28th

SICK MACHINE
LUXT • GIRTH
BAD KHARMA • LUCID

FARRINGTON'S
1938 Contra Costa Blvd.
Pleasant Hill • 925 687-2259
Friday, July 27th
BARBEE KILLED KEN
AUTO PUNCH • jimmy jack
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FRI. AUGUST 24 • DOORS 7:30 / SHOW 8
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matt nathanson

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FRI., JULY 27 • DOORS 8 / SHOW 9
\$12 ADVANCE / \$14 DOOR

MERMAN
MUSHROOM / THAT ONE GUY

SAT., JULY 28 • DOORS 8 / SHOW 9
\$13 ADVANCE / \$14 DOOR

BOX SET / RACHEL GARLIN

SUN., JULY 29 • DOORS 7 / SHOW 8
\$10 ADVANCE / \$12 DOOR

THE BUSINESS

AGNOSTIC FRONT
F-MINUS / THE RESILIENCE

WED., AUG. 1 • DOORS 8:30 / SHOW 9
\$12 ADVANCE / \$12 DOOR

RUBY

THURS., AUG. 2 • DOORS 8:30 / SHOW 9
\$8 ADV. / \$8 DOOR • GODDESS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

LAVISH GREEN / 40 GRIT
TOM FOOLERY / LEVELHEAD

FRI., AUG. 3 • DOORS 7 / SHOW 8
\$10 ADVANCE / \$10 DOOR

GOOD RIDDANCE

1 DEATH BY STEREO

KILL YOUR IDOLS / FIRE SERMONS

SAT., AUG. 4 • DOORS 8 / SHOW 9
\$10 ADVANCE / \$10 DOOR

O.A.R. (OF A REVOLUTION)
JOHN MAYER

SUN., AUG. 5 • DOORS 7 / SHOW 8
\$13 ADVANCE / \$15 DOOR

DICK DALE

THURS., AUG. 9 • DOORS 7 / SHOW 8
\$18 ADVANCE / \$18 DOOR

MATTHEW SWEET
PHANTOM PLANET

FRI., AUG. 10 • DOORS 8 / SHOW 9
\$20 ADVANCE / \$20 DOOR

BETTER THAN EZRA

SAT., AUG. 11 • DOORS 8 / SHOW 9
\$15 ADVANCE / \$15 DOOR

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FEATURING DJ QUEST, SANHUNTAISHUN DUMPARTMENT MUZIK, FOREIGN LEGION, VARIOUS BLENDS, KEMETIC SUNS, STYME AND THE PILO, ZEEN, ZON I, PEP LOVE, EYE CUE & RASHINEL OF HOBNO JUNCTION AND SHOOT YARD MASSIVE

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7/28 Rubber Curtain
7/27 DJ Chicken
7/26 Truth Or Beauty?
7/25 Ask Dr. Hal

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DJ's Niel Sigua & Ironman

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music calendar

Sunday 29

From page 197

'Seventh Annual Fat Fry Music Festival'
Aptos Village Park, Santa Cruz; (831) 420-2800. 11am-7pm, \$28-32. Through Sun/29. See 8 Days a Week, page 182.

Dance clubs

Bionic The Top. 10pm-2am. With Solar, Mark E. Quark, and Iz.
Brainwash 5-8pm. Turtle spins drum 'n' bass.
Broadway Studios 9pm. Argentine tango. Dance lesson at 7pm.
Club Havana Jelly's. 4pm, \$7. Latin music with DJ Ivette Fuentes and a guest performance by Eric Rangel y su Orquesta America.
Compression An Sibin. 6-10pm. Rave music with residents. 10pm-2am, \$3. Drum 'n' bass with rotating residents.
Devotion Endup. 8pm-2am, \$10. House music with resident Ruben Mancias.
Dub Mission Elbo Room. 9pm-2am, \$8. Record-release party for Strong Foundation's Jah Love.
Fabric Justice League. 9pm, \$7. With DJ Sake1.

Ficion Tongue and Groove. 9pm. DJs spin indie rock and Brit pop.
Freedom Galaxy. 6pm-2am. House music with rotating residents.
Hot Hair Care Beauty Bar. 10pm-2am. With DJs Bre-ad, Actual Jakshun, and Latex.
Junk Cafe Du Nord. 8pm, \$7.
Karma Bas. 10pm, \$5. Funk and house with Jerry Ross.
Loqui Cellar. 9pm-2am, \$5. With Fil Latorre, Mary Watts, Inhuman, and David Javate.
Pleasuredome Club Townsend. 9pm-6am, \$15. With Neil Lewis and Jeff Johnson.
Rebirth 330 Rich. 10pm. Soul and hip-hop with Henry, Joe Quixx, Kevvy Key, and Will.
Reggae Sundaze Nickie's BBQ. 9pm-2am, \$5. Reggae music spun by DJ KingDavid, General Patton, and other residents.
Rehab Sno-Drift. 2-8pm. With rotating residents.
Sand Light. 839 Geary; 474-3216. 10pm. With Charlie Bucket and guests.
Selector Sundays Blind Tiger. 9pm-2am, \$5. With the Unsung Heroes.
Spundae Ten 15 Folsom. 9pm-6am, \$5. With Max Graham.
Sublime Sundaze Club 238, 238 Columbus; 434-1308. 9pm-2am. Thomas Trouble, Psychobert, and Explicit spin trance.
Sundance Saloon King Street Garage. 6-11pm, \$5. Country dancing with rotating residents.
Sunday School Sho-Drift. 8pm-4am, \$10. House and downtempo with residents.
Sushi 26 Mix. 7-midnight, \$5. With DJ Gray and rotating residents.
T-Dance Endup. 6am. House music with rotating residents.

Bay Area

Mystery Night Radio. 10pm-2am.
Summer Sundays Club Fisetti. 10pm. World beat and house music.

Classical

Josepha Fath, Phillip Fath Capp Street Community Center, 544 Capp; 444-3595. 4pm, free. Music by Shostakovich, Mozart, and Beethoven on violin and clarinet.
Albert Sassmann Old First Church, 1751 Sacramento; 474-1608. 5pm. The pianist plays works by Mozart, Schubert, Tedesco, and Ravel.
Lucianno Zecca St. Mary's Cathedral, 1111 Gough; 567-2020, ext 213. 3:30pm. The organist performs.

Bay Area

Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble Yerba Buena Gardens, Rooftop Gardens, Fourth and Howard; 543-1718. 2-3pm, free. Cassie Craine, Amelia Romano, and Liza Rose Wallace play neo-Celtic and medieval songs.
Peninsula Symphony Oak Creek Apartments, 1600 Sand Hill Rd, Palo Alto; (650) 941-5291. 3pm, free. Mitchell Sardou Klein conducts.

Continued on page 201

BOOM BOOM ROOM

COCKTAILS • DANCING

Wed July 25 \$3

DIRECT FROM NEW MEXICO WITH HIGH SIERRA MUSIC FESTIVAL

"JAKA"

"MARIMBA & PERCUSSION MUSIC. ORIGINAL, FUNKY, EXUBERANT WORLD BEAT GROOVE MUSIC THAT MOVES THAT BODY AND SPIRIT" - NEW WORLD GROOVE - INSPIRED BY MUSIC OF THE SHONA PEOPLE IN ZIMBABWE (ADVANCE TIX ON SALE @ WWW.TICKETWEB.COM)

Thu July 26 \$4

SHE'S BACK FROM EUROPE TO SHAKE YOUR BODY & SOUL

"BRENDA BOYKIN & HOME COOKIN'"

GRINDIN' HOT BLUES & BOOGIE - SHE CALLS AFRO-BILLY SOUL STEW!

Fri July 27 \$1

"Oscar Myers' Bluesbeat"

ALL-STAR SEVEN PIECE JAZZ FUNK SOUL BLUES BAND - FEATURING: DENISE MINIFIELD W/ THE FLAMINGOS' SAX - GUITARIST W/ FRANK ZAPPA, TONY-TONE-TON'S DRUMMER, HENRY ODEN ON BASS, B-4 ORGAN VIRTUOSO & OSCAR MYERS

Sat July 28 \$10

ONE NIGHT ONLY • THE DYNAMIC "MS. FAYE CAROL" & HER OFF THE HOOK BLUES BAND (ADVANCE TIX ON SALE @ WWW.TICKETWEB.COM)

Sun July 29 \$3

SUNDAY FUNK BLOW-OUT FEATURING SUPER GROOVE FUNK, JAM JAZZ, PSYCHEDELIC ROCK, BLUE AND 70'S 'COP SHOW' MUSIC

"TREE O'FROGS"

Mon July 30 \$3

"ONE MORE MILE" SMOKIN' GOOD BLUES & PHATT BLUES BAND WITH SPECIAL GUEST JONATHAN KORTY FROM VINYL ON THE HAMMOND B3 BRINGING THE SOUNDS OF CHICAGO'S "WEST SIDE" CIRCA 1950'S/60'S TO THE WEST COAST W/ SOUL, FUNK & SWING

Tues July 31 \$1

"Oscar Myers' Bluesbeat"

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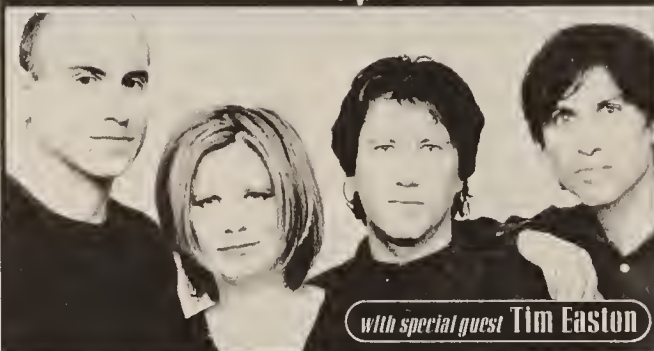
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SAN FRANCISCO
SHOW INFO 415-775-7722

THE WARFIELD
NIGHTCLUB • RESTAURANT • BAR

MGD
SOUND SYSTEM

cowboy junkies

open road 2001



with special guest Tim Easton

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4 ♦ DOORS 6:30/SHOW 8

SEATED SHOW



THE CULT
BEYOND GOOD AND EVIL TOUR 2001

August 6

Doors 7
Show 8

get tickets at sfx.com

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Tickets available online at www.ticketmaster.com and all [ticketmaster](http://www.ticketmaster.com) outlets including Tower Records, Warehouse Music, Ritmo Latino, select Rite Aid stores and at The Fillmore box office on Sundays and show nights.

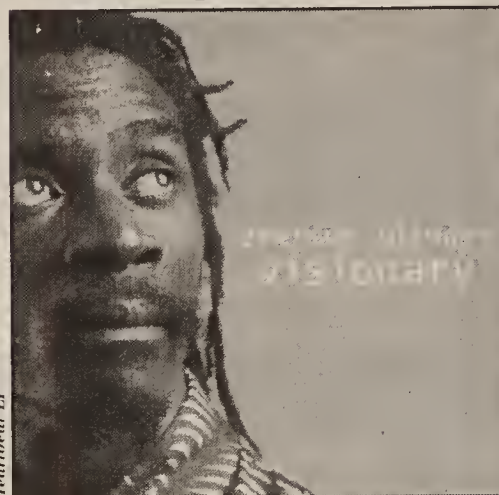
Charge by phone: (415) 421-TIXS • (408) 998-TIXS

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Thur 26

MEOW-"THE SUPPER LOUNGE"
• 6PM-11PM - DINNER & COCKTAIL SHOW STARRING "PURE ECSTASY"
• 11PM - 2AM - URBAN GROOVES WITH RESIDENTS
• DJ SWITCH & KEVIN ARMSTRONG

Fri 27

SEQUENCE-RETRO, URBAN GROOVE & HOUSE
• 5PM-7PM COMPLIMENTARY APPETIZER BUFFET TIL 7PM
• 6PM-8PM - FUNKY HAPPY HOURS
• KAHLUA DJ TOUR FEATURING BB HAYES
• SOUL FUL HOUSE, RARE GROOVES- DJ REPETE, SEVEN, SOL
• 10PM-2AM "SEQUENCE" URBAN GROOVE & HOUSE
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• DJ RANDY WONG IN MAIN ROOM
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• LATE NIGHT DINING TIL 11PM & SUSHI BAR TIL 1AM

Tue 31

KARAMBA LIVE SALSA

• 8PM-9:30PM LESSONS W/ RICARDO & SARAH
• 9:30PM-2AM
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Karie Hillary
Life in General

Thur 7/26
9 PM
\$5 Best of Divas
Jane Brody
Christene Le Doux
True Margrit B-Day
Debra Knox
Red Vinyl Fur

Fri 7/27
9 PM \$7
Dryspell
Flying Baby
DeBriah

Sat 7/28
9 PM
\$7 **Naked Barbies**
Liz Anah
Etienne de Rocher

Sun 7/29
8:30 PM
\$5 **Wasabi**
Sol Americano

Mon 7/30
Open Mike w/ Dayla
Soul...7:30 sign ups FREE

Tues 7/31
8:30 PM
\$5 **Divabands w/**
Ivy Monroe Band
Michelle Tanner
Shaheen Sheik

UPCOMING:

8/1 - JERRY GARCIA'S 8-DAY BASH W/ THE OM TRIO,
STARVIN' LIKE MARVIN
8/2 - GOOD FOR YOU, FETISH, YELLOW DANCER
8/3 - SNUFKIN, FAMOUS LAST WORDS, SAM
8/4 - THE 800CUTS, THE BELLYACHERS, BILL MEYER
8/5 - SHANNON MOORE + ALEX WOODWARD,
DULCINEA, MELLOW DRUNK (ACCOUSTIC)
8/6 - OPEN MIKE
8/7 - DIVABANDS W/ SMITTY, MARSHALL COLTMAN,
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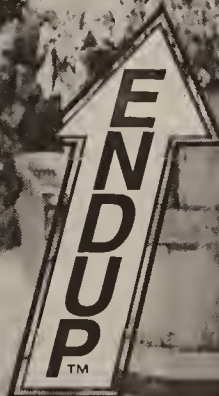
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Negro Blues Piano
MELVIN & THE MELLOW TUNES
Jazz Quartet
9pm

7/28
LITHIUM Sa
Acid Jazz/Drum & Bass
9pm

7/31
Underground Lounge DJ Tu
9:30pm

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From page 198

monday 30

Rock/blues/hip-hop

Bitch and Animal Cafe Du Nord. 9:30pm, \$7.
Broun Fellinis Elbo Room. 9pm, \$5.
Chixdiggit, Icarus Line, Suggie Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, \$7.
David Byrne Warfield. 8pm. Also Tues/31.
Mark Eitzel, David Garza Great American Music Hall. 8pm, \$13.
One More Mile with Jonathan Korty Boom Boom Room. 9:15pm, \$3.
Penny Jo Pullus, Jeff Krebs Kimo's. 9pm.
Walter Earl Group Black Cat. 9:30pm, free.

Bay Area

Steve Gannon Band and Mz. Dee Blakes. 9:30pm, \$5.

Jazz/new music

Sergio Caputo Top of the Mark. 8pm.
Kevin Gibbs and Ruth Davies Moose's. 8pm.
Happy Apple Voodoo Lounge. 10pm.
Jason Myers Trio Houston's, 1800 Montgomery. 392-9280. 6pm.
'Northbeach Jazz Festival' 7th Note Chdb, 915 Columbus; 771-2061 or www.nbjazzfest.org. 9pm, \$18. "Jazz Divas," featuring Dena DeRose, Rita Di Ghent, and Hydeus Kialla. See Critic's Choice.
Tony Saunders's Jazz Trio John's Grill, 63 Ellis; 986-0069. 6:30-10pm.
Ronald Wilson Quintet Les Jordin's. 8pm.

Bay Area

Eddie Gale Band, Prince Lasha Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm, \$8-10. Jazz in Flight. See 8 Days a Week, page 182.
'Jazz Improv Jam Session' Black Dot Cafe, 2330 International, Oakl; (510) 533-6629. 9-11pm, \$3.
Tim Price Big Band 19 Broadway. 9pm.

Folk/world/country

Bay Area

Steve Riley, Mamou Playboys Ashtenaz. 9pm, \$12. Also Tues/31.

Dance clubs

All or Nothing Edinburgh Castle. 10pm. Soul and rock music.
Club Dread Justice League. 9pm, \$10. Reggae and dancehall.
D.Volution Pow! A Cocktail Lounge. 8pm-2am. With Ms. Dress.
Grateful Dead Jams Nickie's BBQ. 9pm-2am. Dark Star Dan plays rare Grateful Dead tracks.
Halflife An Sabin. 9pm-2am. XJS, Zigmund Void, and Kryptik spin drum 'n' bass.
Milkshake Mondays Sno-Drift. 10pm-2am, \$5. With Travis.
Rebound Paradise Lounge. 8:30pm.
Rockin' Java 1821 Haight; 831-8842. 7pm. Hip-hop and open mic.
Self Serve DJ Nite Odeon, 3223 Mission; 550-6994. 7pm-2am. Open turntables.
Sixth Element Hush Hush Lounge. 9pm-2am, \$3. Electro, tech-house, drum 'n' bass, and trance.
Star Lounge Up and Down Club. 10pm-2am, \$5. DJ Henry and guests spin soul, dancehall, and hip-hop.
Sumo The Top. 9pm, \$5. Hip-hop and funk with guest Romanowski.
Vroom El Rio. 8pm-midnight. Punk, funk, and soul.

Bay Area

Underground Lounge Radio, 435 13th St, Oakl; (510) 451-2889. 10pm-2am. '60s and '70s music.

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HIP HOP N' HOUSE
TONY SHANE
seven + sol

SAT. 7-28 **SUB★ZERO**
SERVING DINNER
GARTH
SEAN FERGUSON
LAYNE FOX

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9-2AM W/KEEBO

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THURS. 7/26 Cork Club 9pm:
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Hip Hop/ R&B

FRI. 7/27 Cork Club 10pm:
BROUN FELLINIS

SAT. 7/28 Cork Club 10pm:
CANNONBALL

TUE. 7/31 Cork Club 9pm:
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GEGGY TAH
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MARK EITZEL
DAVID GARZA
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PLUS TBA
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HEART OF SNOW
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caliente, indian vibes, groovy kingston
& percussively driven electronic beats
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ballet sabar & djembe
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"astral traveling"
dj no & dj james higuchi
mix it up w/ jazz, funk, soul,
latin, afro-groove and hip-hop

SUNDAY 7/29
\$6
8:30

MONDAY 7/30
\$6
8:30

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photo Sheri Giben

Continued on page 202

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URBAN WARRIOR

Thurs. 8/2 \$5
SIMPATICO

Fri. 8/3 \$8*
ERIC MARTIN BAND
NICOLE CAMPBELL

Sat. 8/4 \$5
TEA LEAF GREEN
JP ORBIT

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SPEEDY'S WIG CITY PRESENTS
HOT N'TASTY BOOGIE WOOGIE
FROM THE KING OF KEYS
CARL "SONNY" LELAND
PLUS SPECIAL GUEST

THURSDAY, JULY 26 10PM \$6
ROUND WORLD MUSIC PRESENTS
MAZACOTE

FRIDAY, JULY 27 10PM \$7
FROM MARIN COUNTY
VINYL

SATURDAY, JULY 28 10PM \$7
NOBODY FROM IPANEMA

SUNDAY, JULY 29 9PM \$5
DUB MISSION PRESENTS
RECORD RELEASE PARTY FOR
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UPCOMING RELEASE
"JAH LOVE"
FEATURING JAH YZER, CES ONE
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MONDAY, JULY 30 9PM \$5
GET ME HIGH MONDAYS
HAPPY HOUR ALL NIGHT LONG!
PRESENTS
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TUESDAY, JULY 31 9PM \$6
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JESSE LEE & THE MOONSHOTS
THURS 8/2 • AZABACHE
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WEDNESDAY'S NIGHT
ARNOCORPS
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Thurs 7/26 10 PM \$6
THE MASS
60 FOOT TIME
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MEMBERS OF THEORY OF RUIN

Fri 7/27 9 PM \$6
MARK GROWDEN'S
ACOUSTIC PINATA
NUT BROWN
(PORTLAND)
MAJESTYS MONKEY

Sat 7/28 9 PM \$6
dress like an elf and get a buck off the \$6 admission!
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RAYS VAST BASEMENT
THE FITSNERS • LITTLE JOHN
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RED TOP ROAD
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MORE!

Sun 7/29 9PM FREE!
OPEN MIC WITH GIRL GEORGE

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LATE SHOW 10:30pm
DIG THAT BODY
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THE FLYING
LUTTENBACHERS
BURMESE

WED 7/25 8PM

THUR 7/26 9:30PM
THE FLAKES
GRAVES BROS. DELUXE
RADIO VAGO (L.A.)
PORK TORTA

FRI 7/27 9PM
—BLACK CHURCH—
AC/DSHE
401-K
MUTILADOR
VEGAS PREACHER

SAT 7/28 9:30PM
GENE DEFCON
THE BLAST ROCKS
THE GRAVY TRAIN
THE NOISE

SUN 7/29 8:30PM
UUM
(members of the locust
& creation is crucifixion)
KALMEK & THE RIFF
MERCHANTS
Brokedown Opry
& Open Mic:
PENNY JO PULLUS
JEFF KREBS

MON 7/30 7:30 PM
TOURETTE'S
LAUTREC (san diego)
EXTREME ELVIS
MASMELO

TUE 7/31 8PM

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music
calendar

From page 201

tuesday 31

Rock/blues/hip-hop

David Byrne Warfield. 8pm.
Ivy Monroe Band, Michelle Tanner, Shaheen Sheikh Hotel Utah. 8:15pm, \$5. DivaBands showcase.
Mystic Amoeba Music. 5pm, free.
onlinedrawing, Till Seven Years Pass over Him, Low Flying Owls Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, \$6.
Oscar Myers's Bluesbeat Boom Boom Room. 9:15pm, \$1.
Slum Village, Phife Dawg and Jerobi, Mystic, Dwele, Fat Cat Maritime Hall. 7pm, \$18-20.
See 8 Days a Week, page 182.
Spock's Beard 9pm, \$20.
Tourette's Lautrec, eXtreme Elvis, Masmele Kima's, 8pm.

Bay Area

'Area: One' Shoreline Amphitheatre, One Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View; (650) 967-3000. 3:30pm. Featuring Moby, Outkast, New Order, the Roots, Paul Oakenfold, Timo Maas, the Orb, Rinôçérôse, the Innovators and Kevin Souderson, Derrick May, and Juan Atkins.
B Phase, OM 19 Broadway. 9pm.
Discohesive, Felice Blakes. 9:30pm, \$5.
Salane and friends, Fluke Starbucker Stork Club. 9pm, \$5.
Jamie Sheets and the Sheet Rockers, Rusty Zinn Ivy Room. 10pm.
Yes Chronicle Pavilion, 2000 Kirker Pass, Concord; (925) 363-5701. 8pm. The Syn-phonic Tour.

Jazz/new music

Jeanne Hoffman Maese's. 8pm.
Lost Trio Cato's Ale House. 6-9pm.
'Music of Duke and Reinhardt' Cafe Du Nord. 9:30pm, \$5. The music of Duke Ellington and Django Reinhardt.
'Northbeach Jazz Festival' 7th Note Club, 915 Columbus; 771-2061 or www.nbjazzfest.org. 9pm, \$25. "Jazz Forward," featuring Roy Ayers, Kookien and Hoomen, and special guest DJs. See Critic's Choice.
Tony Saunders's Jazz Trio John's Grill, 63 Ellis; 986-0069. 6:30-10pm.
Bishop Norman Williams Quintet Les Joulins. 8pm.

Bay Area

Basso Trio Jupiter. 8pm.
Len Patterson Trio Blakes. 9:30pm, \$3.
So VoSo Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm, \$14.

Folk/world/country

Vivendo de Pao Elbo Room. 9pm, \$6.

Bay Area

Steve Riley and Mamou Playboys Ashkenaz. 9pm, \$12.

Dance clubs

Asia Africa Arabia Nickie's BBQ. 9pm-2am.
DJ Cheb I Sabbah spins a blend of international music.
Bas 9pm-2am, \$10. Record-release party for Mystic.
Blissville Make-Out Room. 10pm, \$3. Psychedelic, funk, and dub.
Broadway Studios 7-9pm. Swing dancing lessons.
Cocktail hour Club Deluxe. 6-9pm. Lounge music with Powerlounge and Brian Cox.
Odevelopment AsiaSE. 10pm. Reference, Ray-gun, and Mykul Crane spin breakbeat and house.
Down There 26 Mix. 7pm. Ben Wa spins jazz and funk. 9pm-2am. Hip-hop and down-tempo with residents Monkey and Stef.
Familia Royale. 9:30pm-2am. Hip-hop, jazz breaks, funk, Latin, and dancehall.

Continued on page 204

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& KEVIN (BULLETPROOF)

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RUSTY ZINN & WILLE
'BIG EYES' SMITH
(of the legendary Muddy Waters Band) w/ special guest
PINETOP PERKINS
9:30pm

Thurs. 7/26
GAIL SWANSON
9:30pm

Fri. 7/27
BARRY GOLDBERG
BLUES BAND
9:30pm

Sat. 7/28
SHANA MORRISON
opening: WAKE
9:30pm

Sun. 7/29
JULES BROUSSARD
4pm-8pm

Mon. 7/30
CHERNOBYL CHILDREN'S BENEFIT
JESSE COLIN YOUNG
SHANA MORRISON
BUD E. LUV
plus very special guests
7pm

Tues. 7/31
NOTHIN' SACRED
9pm
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Salsa Lessons with SHIRLEY from 8 to 9pm

Thurs July 26th **OPEN MIC**
"RODA DE SAMBA"
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Hosted by JARED & FRIENDS

Fri July 27th **LIVE BRAZILIAN MUSIC**
JARED & LOCAL MUSICIANS
ENERGIA DO SAMBA DANCERS
Samba Lessons with AQUARELA
from 9 to 10pm

Sat July 28th **FUSETTI'S SATURDAY NIGHT**
Resident DJ DR. RANDY WONG
spinning the best of 70's, 80's,
DISCO, LATIN HOUSE & CLUB CLASSICS

Sun July 29th **SUMMER SUNDAY**
WORLD BEAT, LATIN ROCK/POP,
SALSA & HOUSE MUSIC

Mondays **AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE PARTIES**
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Tues July 31st **SMOOTH GROOVES**
HIP-HOP, R&B and OLD SCHOOL
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You can hardly turn on the tube without running into one of those precious little novellas about how the Smokefolk help bring food to the hungry, water to the thirsty, sanctuary to the abused and comfort to the afflicted.

It's fascinating in a spooky sort of way to watch them try to reinvent themselves as our friendly, concerned, deep-pocketed neighbors.

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"Everybody picks on us. We've paid billions to settle lawsuits. Now what do you want?"

They didn't say they were going to stop selling a highly toxic, highly addictive product that continues to kill 400,000 Americans every year.

They're still pushing smoking as an appropriate adult activity.

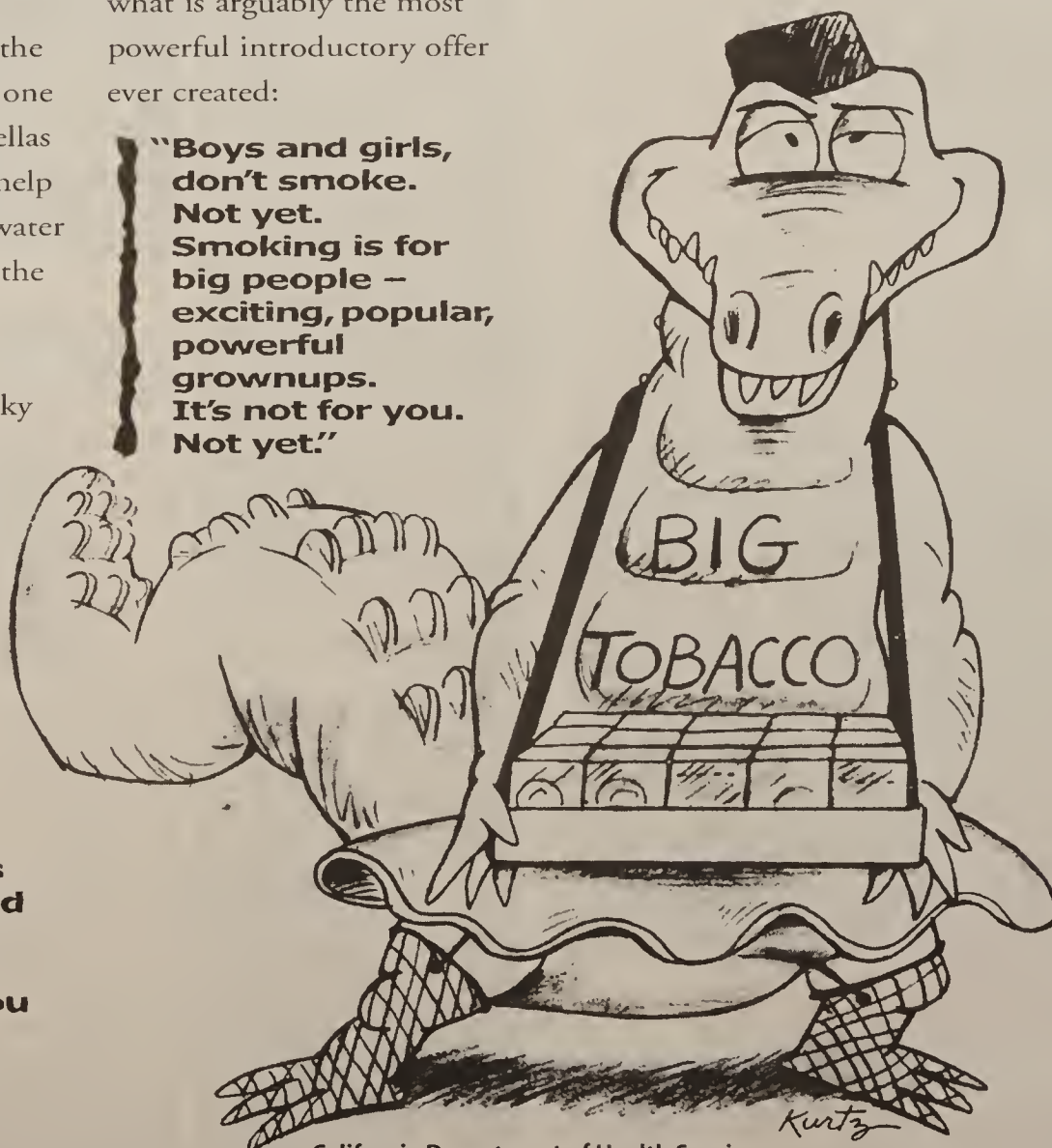
And, they haven't changed what is arguably the most powerful introductory offer ever created:

"Boys and girls, don't smoke. Not yet. Smoking is for big people – exciting, popular, powerful grownups. It's not for you. Not yet."

No one working in the health community thinks the game is close to over.

The tobacco industry, crocodile tears aside, still has a huge stack of chips. But our side has something they'll go broke trying to buy.

It's called the truth.



California Department of Health Services

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FRI. 7/27
MAD HANNANS

SAT. 7/28
TANG
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MON. 7/30
PRESS PARTY
TIM PRICE BIG BAND

WED. 8/1
KIT WALKER, LORN LEBER
VICTOR LITTLE &
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FRI. 8/3
KBT & FRIENDS

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for all the latest news and info, head to
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*venues and acts subject to change

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WEEK OF JULY 25 - JULY 31

W 7.25
Drums 'n Space
plus Jaswho

TH 7.26
AMERICAN TRASH
AMBOY KELSO
LAZYBONES

F 7.27
Boomshanka
Yamagata

SA 7.28
IZM
featuring Erik McFadden and RonKat from PFunk
Rockified Funkism where Hendrix
meets Soulful Funkadelic
STARVIN' LIKE MARVIN
PLUS DJ MOTION POTION

SU 7.29
fiction
a music c.

TU 7.31
The Ron-Jeremy
Explosion
Sundays Taken
Ana Porter

Coming Soon
Th 2 Most Chill Stackmob
F 3 Escape From New York
Tu 7 Shady Lady / JDogs / Pandaemonium
W 8 Wiggle
Th 9 The Sofa Kings
F 10 Brass Monkey Orchestra
Sa 11 I Seen Elvis
Su 12 fiction

events calendar

around town, authors,
attractions & benefits



Seoul survivor: Byung-ki Hwang performs at the Asian Art Museum Trustee's Auditorium Sat/28.

Tuesday 31

From page 202

Frizar Galaxy. 9pm-2am, \$3. Progressive house with rotating residents.
F#@! Tuesdays Backflip. 10pm-2am. '80s music, soul, breakbeat, and hip-hop.
Impulse An Sibin. 10pm-2am. Techno with rotating residents.
Members Only Bohemia Bar, 1624 California; 474-6968. 10pm-2am. '80s music with rotating residents.
Node Pow! A Cocktail Lounge. 9pm-2am. Indie rock and electronica with Thorsten Sideboard and guests.
Scope Light, 839 Geary; 430-2161, ext 2080. 6pm-2am, \$3. Trance and breaks with KJ and Anon.
Soul Samba Dalva, 3121 16th St; 252-7740. 10pm-2am. Latin beats with El Super Chente, Hat Trick Jonny, and Asti Spumanti.
Wax Sacrifice. 10pm-2am, \$5. Soul music with DJs Wisdom, Pause, and Sake One.

Bay Area

Alphabet Stew Radio, 435 13th St, Oakl; (510) 451-2889. 10pm-2am.
Ruby Room 10pm-2am. Punk rock with Kenny Kaos.
Smooth Grooves Club Fusetti. 9pm. Hip-hop and R&B with Phiness and Qwest.

Classical

Seth Monfort Main Post Chapel, 130 Fisher Loop, Presidio; 362-6080. 8pm, \$10. The pianist performs works by Chopin.

Bay Area

Oakland Symphony First Covenant Church, 4000 Redwood, Oakl; (510) 428-3172. 7pm, \$8. The public sing-in session is led by Joseph Liebling; this week's program features works by Brahms.

events

Events listings are compiled by Sarah Han. See 8 Days a Week for information on how to submit items to the listings.

wednesday 25

Around town

'Day out of Time' Golden Gate Park Bandshell, between DeYoung Museum and the Academy of Sciences; (925) 462-1296. 11am, free. This art and culture festival will feature music, performance art, and martial arts demonstrations. See 8 Days a Week, page 182.
'Intersexuality: Redefining Sex: A Dialogue' SF Main Library, Lower Level, Latino/Hispanic Community Room, 100 Larkin; 557-4277. 7pm, free. Cheryl Chase introduces the video "Intersexuality: Redefining Sex," followed by a panel on the topic of living as an intersex person.
Jun Ishimuro Ansel Adams Center, 665 Mission; 495-7000. 12:30pm, free with admission. Publications and bookstore manager at the center will discuss the "Modern Photography in Japan" exhibition.
'The New Anti-War Movement' San Francisco Medical Society, 1409 Sutter; 921-4987. 5-7pm. Ethan Nadelmann, J.D., Ph.D., will discuss the emerging drug policy reform movement.

Authors

Jane Gottesman A Clean Well-Lighted Place for Books, 601 Van Ness; 441-6670. 7:30pm. The author discusses her book *Game Face: What Does a Female Athlete Look Like?*

Continued on page 20

THIEVES TAVERN



3349 20th Street at Shotwell - San Francisco, CA
Open 5pm-2am • Smokers Welcome

NOE VALLEY MINISTRY, 1021 SANCHEZ (near 23rd St.)



Sat. July 28, 8:15pm THE ANDY NARELL GROUP

Over the course of 11 solo albums and 2 more as co-leader of the Caribbean Jazz Project (with Paquito D'Rivera and Dave Samuels) Andy Narell has pioneered the role of the steel pan in contemporary music. His style embraces a range of Afro-Caribbean, Latin jazz and pop traditions and he has been hailed as "the greatest jazz steel pan player."
Tonight Andy will celebrate the release of his "Live in South Africa" recording. His band will feature Bay Area all-stars Murray Low on keyboards, Marc van Wageningen on bass, Jesus Diaz on percussion and Paul van Wageningen on drums. \$14adv/\$16door

Sat. Aug 4 - MANRING/KASSIN/DARTER - \$12adv/\$14door

For information call (415) 454-5238. To purchase advance tickets by mail, send checks to SF Live Arts, PO Box 862, Fairfax, CA 94978. Please specify which show you want. Your tickets will be held at the door.

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FRIDAY, JULY 27

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Charge by phone: (415) 421-TIXS • (408) 998-TIXS

All dates, acts, and ticket prices are subject to change without notice. A service charge is added to each ticket price. Visa, MC accepted. Disabled seating available at all ticket centers. Eight ticket limit per person. A Clear Channel Event

PIER
23

Wednesday, July 25
SALSA DANCE CLASS
WITH RON 8:30pm
CUBANACAN 10pm

Thursday, July 26
ED KELLY & THE JAZZ KNIGHTS
FEATURING ROBERT STEWART 10pm

Friday, July 27
MAZACOTE
SALSA 10pm

Saturday, July 28
DUB FX
REGGAE 10pm

Sunday, July 29
REED FROMER & FRIENDS
FUNK/SOUL 5-9pm

Monday, July 30
WHOOA!
STRAIGHT AHEAD JAZZ 9-12pm

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\$2 shots

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PARADISE
LOUNGE

WED JULY 25
MILLION DOLLAR HOOKER
CROSSTOPS • COOKIE
DIRTY BIRDS • KOOUE KAT

THURS JULY 26
MACKHAND • JESSICA WILL BAND
TIRE BELLY • USA MARIE JACOBS
HH: MEMORY MAN, ROCKIN' 6PM

FRI JULY 27
HUMAN LIFE INDEX
BOOMSHANKA • THE PEAK SHOW
ABOVE: CRIS CLOUSE • HH: ROYAL DEUCES

SAT JULY 28
"CLUB GLITZ"
BLUE PERIOD • E'LUX (LA)
FUNHOUSE (IGGY & THE STOOGES TRIBUTE)
3 DJs • GLAMOUR BOOTHS & ROCK N' ROLL
HH: WONGOZI, THE INVERTEBRATES

MON JULY 29
PBR STREETGANG • PHENOMENAUITS
HYPERNOTWISTS • WARSAW
ABOVE: POETRY

MON JULY 30
ABOVE: "REBOUND"
DJS AND 2 LIVE BANDS

TUES JULY 31
WILSON GIL & THE BRIDGES OF JESUS
THE FRONT PORCH MINISTRY • EL GRECO
ABOVE: KATHI GOLDMARK • ALL STAR
COUNTRY JAM

UPCOMING

FRI AUG 3 - FRANCIS & PULS SPECIAL GUESTS

SUN AUG 3 - ABOVE PARADISE: POETRY

MON AUG 6 - ABOVE PARADISE: "REBOUND"

DJS & 2 LIVE BANDS

THURS AUG 9 - ABOVE PARADISE: "PINK PONY"

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grooves to the early morning hours...

hosted by Marek + Billy + Cristiane + Eric

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WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO TONIGHT?

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9PM - 2AM / EVERYONE FREE BEFORE 10PM / This is an 18 and over party / club gear

ONE NIGHT ONLY SAT JULY 28

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charlotte the baroness (sunburn records)
greg eversoul (deleuxe, release, blue)
dj seven (blue, right, zero)

e-mail djseven2000@yahoo.com for \$10 guest list

Techno
Breaks
House

Cherry

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"I've never seen anything like it. It was amazing. The energy and vibe were overwhelming. Everywhere you looked there were thousands of people just dancing. This is definitely the future..."

-Fresno Bee Article, Cyberfest 2000.

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festival gates open at 3:00PM :: **saturday :: august :: 11th**

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//ATTRACTIONS//

7 Entertainment arenas
5 themed dance arenas
Outdoor Live Stage w/ live acts & MC's
Acres & acres of freedom to unite, dance and celebrate life
An outdoor laser light show
Giant visuals & interactive video
Performance artists, fire dancers
International hot & cold food vendors
Vendor village
Free giveaways
VIP tent
Psychedelic cyber circus
Global conscious booths & Non-profits!!
And many more surprises

Infinite Universe:

No musical limits/
outdoor concert stage & live acts

DJ Dan
Christopher Lawrence
Kevens
Galaxy Girl
Uberzone
Planet B
Nizam

Gateway:

Hosted by Feel Good Entertainment and
the 6th annual Megga Buzz

Charles Feelgood
Jesse Saunders
Donald Glaude
Kevin Kind
Reza
Moda
DJ Huey
DJ Torque
DJ Bizz
Joey Mazzola
David Garcia
Nick Twisted
DJ Rossi
Kendra French

Bass Dimension:

Jungle/DnB/Hip-Hop/Tumtablists

Bad Company
Wish FM
Shy FX
MC Skibadee
Dieselboy
AK-1200
Kaos & Method One
Sage & UFO
Dufunk
Johnny Law
Havoc w/ the Intalekt MC's
DJ Eternal
MC's: Duh
& Ragga Ban Ton

Sanctuary:

Trance/Techno

Skrabble
Keoki
D:Fuse
Scott Hardkiss
St. John
Dyl00t
Tom Slik
Grèg Sandler
Gianni
Thomas Trouble
Denise aka DJ D
DJ Dollar
AMFM Alexander

Cali Zone:

Liquid
Bukweechio & Bicolaz
Jesse Gonzalez
Jaxx the Ripper
Simon Apex
Ron Reeser
DJ Shark vs Attack DJ
Rick V
Alias
Madame Mercury
Prophet
Kid Carson
Disko Shawn
Enemy
Pistachio & Anonymous
Rusty
Raygun
David Savior
Joey Trance
Alejandro
Alain Octavo

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VENUE INFO:

San Francisco, CA

- festival gates open at 3PM sharp!
- rest up and arrive early to make the most of your Cyberfest marathon!
- plenty of parking available and please carpool with your friends
- MUNI Busses will be running from Balboa Bart Station directly to Cyberfest!

Check coolworld.com for complete transportation information.

Cyberfest last year in Fresno sold-out with over 30,000 in attendance! So get your tickets early for speedy entry to save money, plan early & secure your place at this year's Cyberfest.

Special VIP tickets available exclusively on-line at coolworld.com For only \$100. Limited amount available get yours now while they last! VIP ticket holders will receive Cyberfest VIP laminates for keepsakes that will allow you to have VIP line privileges, access to VIP industry tent to get up close & personal with your favorite artists, record executives and dance enthusiasts from around the globe. Complimentary food & drink will be provided as well as guest artist/ DJ performances in an intimate atmosphere. You will also receive free goodies and giveaways.

BUY ONLY FROM LISTED OUTLETS & BEWARE OF FORGERIES!!

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Paul Hemming
DJ Seven
Pete Avila
Cerelean
N8
DJ Randy
DJ Ornyx
Ben Davis

ROCKSTAR

LIVE105

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Wednesday 25

From page 204

Bay Area

Alice Randall Cody's, 1730 Fourth St, Berk; (510) 559-9500. 7pm, \$2. The author reads from *The Wind Done Gone*.

thursday 26

Around town

'The Life of Frida Kahlo' Phyllis Wattis Theater, SFMOMA, 151 Third St; 357-4102. 7-9pm, \$7-11. Gregorio Luke lectures on the artist.

'SF Youth In Action' The Portrero Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro; 826-8080, ext. 310. 5:30-7:30pm, free. Experiment in Diversity presents a free dinner and youth cultural event featuring spoken word, DJ performances, and youth speakers on violence prevention.

Benefits

'Immaculate Confession Documentary Film Benefit' Chlb Six, 60 Sixth St; 863-1221. 9pm-2am, \$7-20. This benefit to fund a movie about Catholic priests and nuns falling in love features performances by Bonfire Madigan, Tartuffi, United Slaves of America, and DJ Lambchop.

'Munificent Martinis with Henry' Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center, Marina at Laguna; 552-9201. 5pm, \$100. This benefit honoring Henry Buhl, founder of SoMa Partnership, will help fund his nonprofit organization.

Photo San Francisco Opening Night Reception Herbst Pavilion, Presidio's Main Post, Moraga and Montgomery. 6pm, \$35. Come celebrate the opening of the photography exhibition at which Ruth Bernhard will be honored; proceeds will benefit the SoMa Partnership.

San Francisco Premier of Apocalypse Now Redux Coronet Theater, 3575 Geary; 666-8932. 7pm, \$15. Check out Francis Ford Coppola's new director's cut version of his classic film; proceeds benefit North Beach Citizens.

Authors

Winberg and May-lee Chai A Clean Well-Lighted Place for Books, 601 Van Ness; 441-6670. 7:30pm. The authors discuss the life of their mother and grandmother Ruth Tsao Chai in *The Girl from Purple Mountain*.

Editor and Contributor reading from Young Wives' Tales: New Adventures in Love and Partnership A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro; 431-0891. 7:30pm. Editors and contributors to the anthology read.

Thea Hillman Books Inc, 2275 Market; 864-6777. 7:30pm. The author reads from her new book, *Depending on the Light*.

Peter Plate New College of California, 766 Valencia; 437-3434. 7:30pm. The author and archivist reads from his new novel, *Angels of Catastrophe*.

Alice Randall Koret Auditorium, SF Main Library, 100 Larkin; 557-4277. 5:15pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia; 282-9246. 7:30pm. The author reads from *The Wind Done Gone*.

Mary Soderstrom Strybing Arboretum, Ninth Ave and Lincoln Way; 661-1316. 6pm. The author of *Recreating Eden: A Natural History of Botanical Gardens*, appears for a slide show and book signing.

friday 27

Around town

'Female Shamanism and Tantra' California Institute of Integral Studies, 1452 Mission; 575-6175. Workshop, 10am-5pm, \$119; lecture, 7:30pm, \$15. Shamanic healer Vicki Noble presents a lecture and workshop on intensive female tantric methods and techniques.

'Organizing Chaos: Reflections on Life and Football' Grand Ballroom, Fairmont Hotel,

950 Mason; 597-6705. 7pm, \$10-15. Former San Francisco 49er Steve Young speaks about his football career.

Union Street Sidewalk Sale Union, from Van Ness to Steiner; Fillmore, from Union to Lombard; 775-5703. 10am, free. The three-day sale will feature sidewalk dining, entertainment, and savings at over 75 shops. Through Sun/29.

'The Worldwide AIDS Pandemic and the Fight Against It ... From San Francisco to South Africa' Socialist Action Bookstore, 3425 Cesar Chavez; 821-0459. 7:30pm, \$1.50-3. NuNu Kidane, Philip Machingura, and Gerry Foley speak on the topic of AIDS.

Benefits

The Joseph S. Domingo Collection Fashion Show Green Room, San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center, 401 Van Ness, Ste 110; 563-2007. 7:30pm, \$35. This show benefits the Filipino Task Force on AIDS.

Authors

Barbara Neely Alexander Book Company, 50 Second St; 495-2992. 12:30-1:30pm; Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia; 282-9246. 7:30pm. The author reads from *Blanche Passes Go*.

Bay Area

Odette Larsen and Alexander Cockburn Cody's, 2454 Telegraph, Berk; (510) 845-7852. 7:30pm, \$2. Journalist Alexander Cockburn and writer Odette Larsen discuss the latter's memoirs, *Flying Sparks*.

saturday 28

Around town

'New Mexico, Land of Enchantment' Photography Center, Harvey Milk Recreation Center, 50 Scott; 554-9522. 2pm, free. The slide program will cover the topics of the landscape and settlements of New Mexico.

Polk Street Festival 2001: Urban Oasis Polk St, between Jackson and Bush; 383-3470.

10am-6pm, free. The festival features live musical performances, arts and crafts, and food. Through Sun/29.

'Trance Dancing - A Workshop on Movement and Transformation' Magikal Child, 1601 A Page; (510) 465-3276. 8pm, \$15-20. Sharon Knight leads this workshop.

Union Street Sidewalk Sale Union, from Van Ness to Steiner; Fillmore, from Union to Lombard; 775-5703. 10am, free. See Fri/27.

Bay Area

'Afribean 2001' Castro, between Central Express and El Camino, Mountain View; (650) 964-2056. 11am-8pm, free. The festival celebrates the music and culture of African, Afro-Caribbean, and Afro-Latin American countries. Through Sun/29.

African American Genealogy Class Eastmont Branch Library, Eastmont Town Ct, Ste 211, 7200 Bancroft, Oak; (510) 615-5726. 11am-1pm. Peggy Woodruff leads the class.

16th Annual Berkeley Kite Festival Cesar E. Chavez Park, Berkeley Marina, Berk; (510) 235-KITE. 11am-5pm. See Critic's Choice.

Benefits

Deerhoof, Blectum, Owls, Total Shutdown, Xiu Xiu, and the Papercuts Cafe Du Nord, 2170 Market; 861-5016. 8pm, \$7. A benefit for land mine removal that features a slew of talented local musicians. See 8 Days a Week, page 182.

10th Annual Squaw Valley Benefit Poetry Reading Gershwin Theater, University of San Francisco, 2350 Turk; (877) 537-8073. 6pm, \$10-15. Poets Lucille Clifton, Brenda Hillman, Galway Kinnell, Li-Young Lee, and Sharon Olds read to benefit the Poetry Workshop Scholarship Fund.

Authors

Barbara Neely Marcus Books, 3900 MLK Jr. Way, Oak; (510) 652-2344. The author discusses and signs her new book, *Blanche Passes Go*.

critic's choice: events

Berkeley Kite Festival

Sat/28-Sun/29, Berkeley Marina

Kite flying should be a mandatory childhood experience: there is nothing more exhilarating (or frustrating) than attempting to lift a piece of fabric on a string into the air. Whether you had a cheapo plastic one or a sturdy nylon one, a common diamond-shaped variety or some fancy-schmancy type, handmade or store-bought, kites were cool, and they still are. Returning for its 16th year, the two-day Berkeley Kite Festival aims to please both novice and diehard enthusiasts. Learn how to make your own kite, buy an already assembled one, or just watch them soaring in the air or being displayed on the ground. Highlights of the festival include the Japanese Sanjo Rokkako Challenge Kite Battle with taiko drumming accompaniment, the Incredible Flying Man kite, numerous enormous creature kites from New Zealand (including a 100-foot-long octopus), and the candy drop, during which airborne kites dump loads of sweets on the kids and grown-ups below. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Cesar E. Chavez Park, Berkeley Marina, Berk. Free. (510) 235-KITE. (Sarah Han)



sunday 29

Around town

Polk Street Festival 2001: Urban Oasis Polk St, between Jackson and Bush; 383-3470. 10am-6pm, free. See Sat/28.

'Best Block Party in San Francisco' Hampshire, between Mariposa and 18th St; 487-4601. Noon-6pm, free. See 8 Days a Week, page 183.

Union Street Sidewalk Sale Union, from Van Ness to Steiner; Fillmore, from Union to Lombard; 775-5703. 10am, free. See Fri/27.

Bay Area

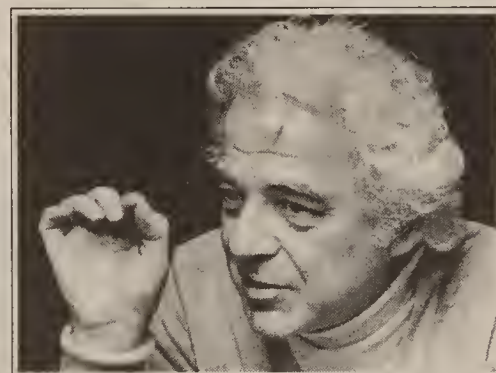
'Afribean 2001' Castro, between Central Express and El Camino, Mountain View; (650) 964-2056. 11am-7pm, free. See Sat/28.

16th Annual Berkeley Kite Festival Cesar E. Chavez Park, Berkeley Marina; (510) 235-KITE. 11am-5pm. See Critic's Choice.

Continued on page 208

The Voice of the Future

"A detailed and decidedly upbeat description of world changes." (New York Times)



An enlightening afternoon with Benjamin Creme

If you are concerned about the growing gap between rich and poor, the destruction of the environment, and the commercialization of modern life, come hear Benjamin Creme's lucid analysis of world trends and solutions.

Creme will also discuss the "greatest event in history" now unfolding: the return to everyday life of a group of extraordinary Teachers led by Maitreya, the World Teacher, whose coming was foretold by the Buddha. Their approach to humanity will transform life on earth.

Benjamin Creme's latest book, *The Great Approach*, will be available at the lecture.

Sunday, July 29, 2:00 p.m.

Masonic Auditorium

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San Francisco • FREE admission

Experience the spiritual energies released through Mr. Creme before and after the talk.

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THE GREAT APPROACH



New Light and Life for Humanity
Benjamin Creme

Sunday 29

From page 207

Benefits

Annual Summer Pottery Sale Sharon Art Studio, Golden Gate Park, adjacent to Sharon Meadow; 753-7005. 11am-5pm, free. The studio's summer sale features hundreds of ceramic vases, bowls, serving dishes, and teapots; a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Sharon Art Studio.

Authors

Reception and book release party for *Una Storia Segreta* City Lights, 261 Columbus; 362-8193. Noon-1pm. City Lights celebrates the release of this book following the history of Italian American internment during World War II.

Bay Area

John Robbins First Unitarian Church of Oakland, 14th St and Castro, Oakl; (510) 893-6129. 7:30pm, \$10-20. The author signs and discusses his new book, *The Food Revolution: How Your Diet Can Help Save Your Life and Heal the World*.

monday 30

Around town

Assaf Adv 1188 Franklin; 282-1908. 8am. The Palestinian coordinator of the Workers Advice Center speaks.

Bay Area

'Seeking Peace: Voices from the Israeli Peace Camp' Wheeler Auditorium, UC Berkeley, Bancroft and Telegraph, Berk; (415) 621-0556. 8:30pm. This panel will include the following participants: Yitzhak Frankenthal, Israeli and Palestinian parents who have lost their children in the conflict, Terry Greenblatt, Sergey Sandler, and Didi Remez.

'The Craft and Business of Songwriting' Musicians Union, 116 Ninth St; 575-0777. 7pm, \$10. The workshop will be led by Andre Pessis.

Benefits

'Help Is on the Way VII: An All Broadway Concert' Palace of Fine Arts Theater, 3601 Lyon; 273-1620. www.helpisontheway.org. 5:30pm, \$50 and up. See 8 Days a Week, page 183.

tuesday 31

Around town

70th Annual California Book Awards Ceremony Commonwealth Club, 595 Market; 597-6705. 5:30pm, \$15. This ceremony honors the winners of the 2001 California Book Awards.

Benefits

'Help is on the Way VII: An All Broadway Concert' Palace of Fine Arts Theater, 3601 Lyon; 273-1620. 6pm, \$50 and up. See 8 Days a Week, page 183.

Authors

Robert Glatzer Stacey's Bookstore, 581 Market; 421-4687. 12:30pm. The author of *Beyond Popcorn: A Critic's Guide to Looking at Film* discusses what films you "have to see before you die."

attractions/kid stuff

Bay Area Youth Harp Ensemble Concert Rooftop Gardens, Yerba Buena Gardens, Mission between Third and Fourth streets; 543-1718. Young harpists, Cassie Craine, Amelia Romano, and Liza Rose Wallace play neo-Celtic and medieval harps, 2-3pm, free.

California Academy of Sciences Golden Gate Park; 750-7145. Daily, 9am-6pm. \$2-8.50 (free first Wed). The academy includes the Steinhart Aquarium, the Morrison Planetarium, and the Natural History Museum; current exhibits include "The Elkus Collection: Changing Traditions in Native American Art" and "Anglers All: Humanity in Midstream." Wed: Photographer R. Valentine Atkinson presents his images on the topic of fly fishing, 2 and 7pm, \$10. Sat: Expert fly fishers demonstrate fly casting and explain the bugs their lures imitate, 12:20 and 2:30pm. Sun: Learn about fishing lures and compare them to the real flies they imitate; learn how to tie your own fly, 12:30 and 2:30pm.

Crissy Field Center Presidio, Bldg 603, Mason at Halleck; 561-7690. Wed-Sun, 10am-6pm. Free. The national park, set in a restored tidal marsh offers, multicultural programs, activities, and resources that promote an eco-friendly environment. Wed: Take a "garbage tour" at the Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Center, 9am-1pm, \$6; Sarah Klein leads a workshop on using digital camcorders to see patterns in nature, 10am-2pm, \$15. Thurs: Rob Weinberg leads this ongoing program for seniors on using computer applications and searching the Internet, 10am-noon; park rangers lead a morning walking tour for seniors, 10am-11am. Sat: At "Exposed: The ABCs of Health, Environment, and Justice," learn about environmental and health issues, 10am-2pm; learn how to create raised surface printing plates and images, 1-4pm, \$6. Sun: Go on a walking adventure on this Presidio rocks geology tour, 10-11am; Amy Hunter and Paul Matzner lead an outdoor walk focusing on the "sounds of summer," 10am-noon, \$6; Ranger Bob Holloway gives a history lesson and tour of the Sutro Baths and the Museo Mecanique that meets at Crissy Field, 10am-1pm, \$6. Sun: Musician Stephen Kent tells stories with the help of an Australian aboriginal instrument, the didgeridoo, 1-2pm.

Exploratorium 3601 Lyon; 563-7337. Wed, 10am-9pm, Thurs-Tues, 10am-6pm. \$6-9 (free first Wed). The museum features hands-on exhibits relating to art, science, and human perception, including "Behind the Screen: Making Motion Pictures and Television." Sat: Learn how to make cameraless animation with Thad Povey, 1-5pm.

Herbst International Exhibition Hall 385 Moraga; 861-9838. Daily, 10am-8pm. \$9. The latest exhibit focuses on medieval to modern

torture devices, featuring over 100 instruments culled from the Criminal Medieval Museum of San Gimignano, Italy. Wed: This roundtable discussion explores "the rise of the prison industrial complex," 7pm.

Randall Museum 199 Museum Way; 554-9600. Tues-Fri, 10am-5pm. \$6-7. The museum has exhibits and activities for kids. Fri-Sun: The Young People's Teen Musical Theatre Company presents *The Shakespeare Rerue*, a play directed by Diane Price, Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 2pm, \$4-7. Sat: "Saturdays Are Special" focuses on making recycled sculptures with wire and foam, 1-4pm.

Young Performers Theatre Fort Mason Center, C-300, Marina at Laguna; 346-5550. Sat-Sun, 1pm. \$5-8. Through Sun/29. The theater company performs "Fairy Tale Odyssey," an adaptation of classics from Little Red Riding Hood to the Frog Prince.

Bay Area

Bay Area Discovery Museum 557 McReynolds, East Fort Baker near Sausalito; 487-4398. Fri-Sun, 10am-5pm. \$6-7. The museum hosts learning labs, exhibits, and activities for children, including "The Science of Oz." Sat: James Henry presents a performance that features African drumming, singing, and storytelling, 10:30am, \$10. Sun: The museum holds its "Eighth Annual Soapbox Derby" at 12:30pm.

Chabot Space and Science Center 10000 Skyline, Oakl; (510) 336-7300. Tues-Sun, 10am-5pm. \$5.50-8. The state-of-the-art science and technology facility houses an observatory, planetarium, and exhibits in a natural park setting. Wed-Sun: A workshop on rocket cars is held Wed-Fri, 12:30-2pm and 2:30-4pm; Sat-Sun, 11am-1pm and 2-4pm. Thurs: Dr. Mike Reynolds explains meteors and meteorites, 7:30pm. Sat: At this family workshop learn about satellite engineering using a shoebox, Jello, and eggs. Bring your own shoebox, 10-11:30am.

Children's Fairyland 699 Bellevue, Oakl; (510) 452-2259. Mon-Fri, 10am-4:30pm; Sat-Sun, 10am-5pm. \$6. The children's storybook theme park features programs and performances that encourage children's education and imagination. Current performances include the puppet show, *The Princess and the Swineherd*. Sat-Sun: A special weekend family celebration for Fairyland's Grand Re-opening takes place at 10am-4:30pm.

'Into the Eye of Magic! An Asian Folk Tale' Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College, Berk; (510) 845-8542. Sun, 2pm, \$5-10. Opera Piccola presents this musical production by Carolyn Lau about a mother who has bizarre dreams.

Lawrence Hall of Science Centennial Drive off Grizzly Peak Blvd, UC Berkeley, Berk; (510) 642-5132. Wed-Tues, 10am-5pm. \$3-7. The public science center features all types of exhibits, films, and activities for adults and children, including "Space Weather" and "Science in Toyland." Wed: Artists from the East Bay Dept for Creative Reuse lead a workshop on how to make toys from recycled materials, noon-2pm. Sat: Learn about aerodynamics through testing the Arrowcopter flying toy, 10-10:50am and 11-11:50am. Sun: Fran Holland instructs on making homemade musical instruments, 1-3pm.

Oakland Museum of California 1000 Oak, Oakl; 1-888-OAK-MUSE. Wed-Sat, 10am-5pm; Sun, noon-5pm (first Fri, 10am-9pm). \$4-6 (free second Sun). Current exhibits include "The Rustler Ranch Mastodon Project." Wed: Celebrate Grandparents' and Grandkids' Day. Sat: Photographers featured in the "Legacy of Gordon Parks" exhibit discuss their work, and Deborah Willis, cocurator of the "Half Past Autumn" exhibit talks about the history of African American photography, 1-4pm.

Urban Youth Arts Festival Precita Park, Precita and Folsom; 285-2311. Sat, 1-5pm, free. The festival will feature underground mural performance, food, and music by Addict Merchants, DJ Charlie Bucket, DJ Treat U Nice, Ground Effects.

every week

Bay Area Radical Women study group New Valencia Hall, 1908 Mission; 864-1278. Wed, 7pm. Free, \$4 for dinner. Through Wed/18. The local organization takes a look at *The Radical Women Manifesto: Socialist Feminist Theory, Program, and Organizational Structure*.

'Friday Night Skate' Justin Herman Plaza, Embarcadero Center; 752-1967. Fri, 8pm. Free. Join the Midnight Rollers every Friday night for a 12-mile skate through the city.

Gaelic football and hurling Kezar Stadium, Frederick at Stanyan; 289-2044. Sun, 11am-5pm. \$6. Through Sun/29. Enjoy competitive football and hurling games between opposing teams from around Northern California.

'Improve Your Public Speaking Skills' Parsons Brunckerhoff, 303 Second St, Ste 700N; 923-3257. Wed, 5:30pm. Free. Bechtel Toastmasters offer weekly workshops on public speaking.

'Introduction to Buddhist Meditation' Various locations; 585-9161. Mon-Wed, call for times. Donation. Learn about philosophy and meditation during this ongoing drop-in class.

Lyric 123-127 Collingwood, 1-800-246-PRIDE. Various ongoing events; call for times and prices. This center holds many events for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youths 23 and younger.

'Open Mural Studio' Precita Eyes Mural Arts and Visitors Center, 2981 24th St; 285-2287. Thurs, 7:30pm. \$8. Participate in mural painting or mosaic making projects.

Tai Chi classes Various park locations; 621-3260. Call or check www.sfnighborhoodparks.org for times. Free. The Neighborhood Parks Council hosts these weekly classes.

'Thursday Showcase' United Nations Plaza, Market at Hyde; 255-1923. Thurs, 7am. Free. The outside bazaar and flea market offers antiques, collectibles, crafts, and imported items.

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art

Art listings are compiled by Sarah Han. Because of space limitations, new art shows are listed the week they open (thereafter, shows are listed on a rotating basis), and we cannot list café exhibits. For information on how to submit listings to this section, see 8 Days a Week. Reviews are by Lindsey Westbrook.

museums

Ansel Adams Center for Photography 655 Mission; 495-7000. Sun-Wed, 11am-5pm; Thurs-Sat, 11am-8pm. \$7, \$4 seniors and students, free for 12 and under and members.

'Modern Photography in Japan: 1915-1940' Seventy images by 32 photographers.

'Intimate Eye: The Paintings and Photographs by Consuelo Kanaga.' Black-and-white photographs and paintings. Both exhibits run Through Sept 30.

Asian Art Museum Golden Gate Park (near 10th Ave at Fulton); 379-8801. Wed-Sun, 9:30am-5pm (extended hours until Sept 12: Thurs-Sat, 9:30am-9pm; first Wed, 9:30am-8:45pm). \$7, \$5 seniors, \$4 youths. "Views of Islamic India." Ten prints by Thomas and William Daniell. Through Oct 7. "Zen: Paintings and Calligraphy, 17th-20th Centuries." Sixty-six works by Japanese monks-artists. Through Oct 7.

California Palace of the Legion of Honor Lincoln Park (near 34th Ave at Clement); 863-3330. Tues-Sun, 9:30am-5pm. \$8, \$6 seniors, \$5 for 12 to 17, free for 11 and under (free Tues). "Marks of Creativity: Recent Acquisitions of California Drawings." Various works by California artists. Through Aug 26. "After the War: European Artists' Books 1945-1955." Books by artists in postwar Europe. Through Sept 2.

'(a)way station: The Architectural Spaces of Migration'

Through Fri/3, 3A Garage

A recently arrived urban immigrant is never quite at home. Limited funds and apartment availability often necessitate making a living room, bedroom, kitchen, and even bathroom out of a single, overcrowded space. Architectural design collective KW:a (a partnership of architects Mabel Wilson and Paul Kariouk) explores the possibilities and the limitations of "migratory" domestic space in the multimedia installation "(a)way station: The Architectural Spaces of Migration." The 3A gallery is itself a transitional sort of area — half gallery, half garage — and here it's packed with tall, wooden moving crates. Each crate has sections missing all over its flat surface, the holes filled in with all kinds of household materials, such as carpet, or linoleum, or a toilet seat. The artists also took dozens of three-dimensional objects (books, a telephone, a dining room chair, and even an entire Panasonic television), set them into holes in the crates, and then sawed them off flush with the flat plywood exterior. It isn't easy to identify all of the sawed-off stuff — we're just not used to cross-sectional views of



"(a)way station" (2001), by KW:a

things like phones and shoes! It makes the show seem like an enormous puzzle, but with the added voyeuristic thrill of looking through someone else's personal possessions. Past KW:a projects tended to center on specific ethnic groups of immigrants, but the things here might belong to anyone, from anywhere. The symbolism is heavy, but there's always something to keep it grounded in reality, like the audio track that keeps you company as you maneuver through the crate forest. It plays a collection of first-person narratives by real-life migrants, one of them a 90-year-old Chinese man with a razor-sharp memory of moving to the United States at age 12. **Tues.-Fri., 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 27 South Park, S.F. (415) 543-3347.** (Lindsey Westbrook)

Museo Italo Americano Fort Mason Center, Bldg C, Marina at Laguna; 673-2200. Wed-Sun, noon-5pm (first Wed, noon-7pm). \$3, \$2 students and seniors; free for 11 and under and on first Wed. "Mostra 2001: Clay and Glass," works by five Italian-American artists. "Kathleen Caprario and George Ferlandi." Works by the Modesto Lanzzone Mostra 1999 winners. Both exhibits through Sept 2.

Museum of Craft and Folk Art Fort Mason Center, Bldg A; 775-0991. Tues-Fri, and Sun, 11am-5pm; Sat 10am-5pm. \$1-3. (free Sat, 10am-noon; first Weds, 11am-7pm). "Contemporary Needlework: Tattoo!" Works by 15 women tattooists. "Crowning Glory: Contemporary Paper Hats by Moses." Fifty hats made by folk artist Moses. Both exhibits through Sun/29.

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art 151 Third St; 357-4000. Fri-Tues, 11am-6pm; Thurs, 11am-9pm (extended hours until Sept 6: Fri-Tues, 10am-6pm; Thurs, 10am-9pm). \$10, \$7 seniors, \$6 students, 12 and under and members free (free first Tues; half-price Thurs, 6-9pm). "Points of Departure." Sixty works from SFMOMA's permanent collection. Through Sept 16. "Stranger Passing: Collected Portraits by Joel Sternfeld." Sixty-five large-scale color photographs. Through Oct 2.

San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum 401 Van Ness, Fourth fl; 255-4800. Tues, Thurs-Sat, 11am-5pm; Wed 11am-7pm. Free. "Verdi by the Bay." A historical exhibition of Verdi performances. Through Aug 18. **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts** 701 Mission; 978-ARTS. Tues-Wed and Sat-Sun, 11am-6pm; Thurs-Fri, 11am-8pm. \$6, \$3 seniors, students, and youths; free for members (free first Tues). "Roots, Rhymes and Rage: the Hip-Hop Story." Handbills, costumes, turntable technology, and other artifacts exploring hip-hop's origins and its impact on popular culture. "Hip-Hop by the Bay." An exhibit focusing on the Bay Area's hip-hop culture. All exhibits through Aug 12.

Bay Area

Judah L. Magnes Museum 2911 Russell, Berk; (510) 549-6950. Sun-Thurs, 10am-4pm. \$3 donation. "Ancestral Ascent." Site-specific installation by Sophia Tsavalas. Through Nov. "Re-counting." Photo-collage by Taraneh Hemami. Through Nov. **Museum of Anthropology** 103 Kroeber Hall, No 3712, UC Berkeley; (510) 643-1193. Wed-Sun, 10am-4:30pm. "The Art of Research: Nelson Graburn and the Aesthetics of Inuit Sculpture." Collections of Inuit soapstone carvings. "Tzintzuntzan, Mexico: Pho-

tographs by George Foster." The UC Berkeley professor emeritus of anthropology exhibits his photographs, collected from 1945 to 1999. "Sites along the Nile: Rescuing Ancient Egypt." Exhibit includes nearly 600 objects, including jewelry, pottery, and sculpture. All exhibits extended through Oct 1. **Oakland Museum of California** 1000 Oak, Oakl; (510) 238-2200. Wed-Sat, 10am-5pm; Sun, noon-5pm. \$6, \$4 seniors and students. "Every Worker Is an Organizer: Farm Labor and the Resurgence of the United Farm Workers." Fifty-eight photographs by David Bacon. Through Aug 26.

galleries

Opening

Balazo/Mission Badlands Gallery 2811 Mission; 920-0896. Sat-Sun, 2-6pm. "Catalyst," work by 13 Bay Area artists. Sat/28, 6pm-midnight.

Braunstein/Quay 430 Clementine; 278-9850. Tues-Sat, 11am-5:30pm. "Bounded by Fences," works by Michael McConnell; "Shooting Pool in Public," paintings by Nellie King Solomon. Through Sat/28. "Beyond Thread — (A)mending Social Thought," fiber works curated by Myra Goodall Block (reception Sat/4, call for hours). July 31-Aug 25.

Build 483 Guerrero; 863-3041. By appt only. "Chrysalis: 3-Prong Approach Through Drawing," installation by Rebecca Haseltine, Monica Nelson, and Crystal Reiss. Through Fri/27. "Blobby," new works by Robert Bowen and Karen Salinger (reception Sat/28, 7-9pm). July 28-Aug 9.

Canvas Cafe Gallery 1200 Ninth Ave; 504-0070. Mon-Wed, 11am-7pm; Thurs-Fri, 11am-9pm; Sat-Sun, 10am-9pm. "Summer Show," group show by Bay Area artists. Through Wed/25. "Crisis and Resolution," group show (reception Thurs/26, 7-9pm). July 26-Aug 29. Changing exhibit of original artwork by emerging Bay Area artists. Ongoing.

Chinese Culture Center 750 Kearny, Third fl; 986-1822. Tues-Sun, 10am-4pm. "Marvel and Reflection," prints and paintings by Liao Shiou-Ping (reception Thurs/26, 6-8pm). Through Oct 7.

Francis Mill Art Gallery 555 Sutter, Fourth fl; (510) 832-3666. 10am-6pm. Works by Reiko Matsuo and Saba Qizilbash (reception Fri/27, 6-10pm). Fri/27-Sun/29.

Haines 49 Geary; 397-8114. Tues-Sat, 10:30am-5:30pm (first Thurs until 7:30pm). Works by Peter Sarkisian (reception Thurs/26, 5:30-7:30pm). July 26-Aug 25.

HANG 556 Sutter; 434-4264. Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun, noon-5pm. "Surfacing," works by Catherine Saiki. Through Sat/28. "Crisis and Resolution," group show, featuring the work of John Herschend (reception Thurs/26, 7-9pm). July 26-Aug 29.

Herbst Pavilion Presidio's Main Post, Moraga and Montgomery, (323) 937-5525 or www.photosanfrancisco.net. Fri-Sat, noon-7pm; Sun, noon-6pm. "Photo San Francisco," second annual print exhibition. Fri/27-Sun/29.

Lair of the Minotaur Gallery 3318 26th St; (510) 848-1747. By appt only. "Release," mixed media installation exploring masculine fantasy by Ralph Meneghetti (reception Thurs/26, 7-10pm). Thurs/26-Thurs/2. **Place Pigalle** 520 Hayes; 552-2671. Sun-Wed, 4pm-midnight; Thurs-Sat, 4pm-2am. "Possibilities," recent works by Toolworks Students (reception Tues/31, 5-7pm). July 31-Sept 4.

Bay Area

ARTSHIP Foundation 1715 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 238-5103. Daily, 24hrs. "Junk Art," works by Janet Lee Brown. July 26-Sept 20. **Green Shutter Gallery** 22654 Main, Hayward; (510) 538-2787. Wed-Sat, 1-4pm. "Unsettling Memories," surrealist mixed-media sculpture by Fernando Hernandez; "Gathering Absence," abstract paintings by Cynthia Hurtubis (Artist's talk by Cynthia Hurtubis

Aug/8, 7pm; artist's talk by Fernando Hernandez Aug 22, 7pm). Through Sept 7. **Kala Art Institute** 1060 Heinz, Berk; (510) 549-2977. Tues-Fri, noon-5pm and by appointment. "A Fine Line," images by Samuel Chapin Brown, Sandra Gibson, Pakamas Suwannipa, and Lee Walton (reception Thurs/26, 6-8pm). July 26-Aug 24. **John F. Kennedy University Arts and Consciousness Gallery** 2956 San Pablo, Berkeley Business Center, Berk; (510) 649-0499. Mon-Fri, 11am-5pm. "A Turbulent Radiancy," mixed-media work by Louise Pryor. Through Thurs/26. Works by Diana Greenleaf (reception Sat/4, 4-7pm). July 30-Aug 8. **Lizabeth Oliveria Gallery** 942 Clay, Oakl; (510) 625-1350. Tues-Sat, 10:30am-6pm. "Nowhere Fast," works by Duane McDiarmid, Danica Phelps, Chris Sollars, and Christopher Moore. Through Sat/28. "Marginalia," works by Camille Holvoet, Dwight Mackintosh, Donald Mitchell, Judith Scott, William Scott, and William Tyler (reception Sat/4, 6-9pm). July 31-Aug 18.

Ongoing

Robert Allen Fine Art 427 Bryant; 777-0920. Mon-Fri, 10am-5pm. New works by Larry Gray. Through Fri/27.

Caldwell Snyder Gallery 341 Sutter; 392-2299. Mon-Wed, 10am-6pm; Thurs-Sat, 10am-8pm; Sun, 11am-5pm. "Sacred and Profane," recent paintings by Alejandro Rivera. Through Tues/31.

Canessa 708 Montgomery; 296-9029. Mon-Fri, 10am-2pm. "Horizon and Fences," landscape drawings by Dan Kavert. Through Tues/31.

Culture Cache 1800 Bryant, No. 104; 626-7776. Wed-Sun, 2-7pm. "Collage: Medium at Large," works by various artists. Through Sun/29.

Galeria de la Raza 2857 24th St; 826-8009. Tues-Sat, noon-6pm. "El Webopicon: Sistema de Vigilancia," digital mural by Los Cybrids. Through Fri/27.

Gallery Paule Anglim 14 Geary; 433-2710. Tues-Sat, 11-5:30pm. "Introductions 2001," works by Inga Dorosz and Amanda Fin, Maria Ezcurrea, Eamon Ore-Giron, and Gregory Stone. Through Sat/28.

Hackett-Freedman 250 Sutter, Fourth fl; 362-7152. Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5pm. "Paul Wanner: Select Works from the Sixties," paintings by Paul Wanner; recent paintings by Kyle Staver; "Expectations and Desires," works by Michael Ananian. All exhibits through Sat/28.

HANG Annex 565 Sutter; 434-4264. Call for hours. "Dreams and Realities," paintings by Kevin Moore. Through Sat/28.

'Inhabiting the Landscape' Along China Basin Blvd, south of the intersection with Mission Rock Blvd; 841-7757. 24 hours. Marisa Jahn, site-specific installation of resin photo-text panels. Through Tues/31.

Levi's 300 Post; 501-0100. Mon-Sat, 10am-8pm; Sun 11am-6pm. Photographs by John Walder. Through Sat/29.

Linn Gallery 290 Townsend; 977-1300. Mon-Sun, 9:30am-11pm. "Seven Days, Seven Nights," a weeklong series of exhibitions, talks, receptions and musical entertainment. Through Sun/29.

Luggage Store 1007 Market; 255-5971. Wed-Sat, noon-5pm (or by appt). "Shortcuts 2001," works by Belief Systems, Ricardo Rivera, Nao Bustamante, Christopher Garrett, Cliff Hengst, and Evan Jouden (reception Fri/27, 6-9pm). Through Sat/28.

Melting Point Gallery 1340 Bryant; 769-2939. Wed, Fri-Sat, 1-6pm; Thurs, 1-8pm; and by appt. "Significant Debris: the failure of rational thought," new "black paintings" by Tom Fowler. Through Sat/28.

Meridian Gallery 545 Sutter; 398-7229. Tues-Sat, 11am-5pm. "H2O Above and Below," works by Leslie Andelin. Through Sat/28. **Mission Cultural Center** 2868 Mission; 821-1155. Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm. "Mexico City Contemporary Artists," 70 works by artists from Mexico City; "Mitos Andinos," paintings by Luis Arias Vera. Both exhibits through Mon/30.

New Langton Arts 1246 Folsom; 626-5416. Wed-Sat, noon-5pm. "LifeLike," works that explore the boundaries between the natural and the artificial. Through Sat/28.

ODC Theater Gallery 3153 17th St; 626-6745. Thurs, 3-5pm; Sat, 3-6pm. "Debarked Repose," collages and cutouts by Stefan Komozzi. Through Sun/29.

111 Minna Gallery 111 Minna; 974-1719. Tues-Fri, 1-7pm; Sat, 4-7pm. "Evidence of Life," works by Maya Hayuk. Extended through Sat/28.

Paxton Gate 824 Valencia; 824-1872. Mon-Thurs, noon-7pm; Fri, noon-8pm; Sat, 11am-8pm; Sun, 11am-7pm. "Art Dreco."

After more than 20 years in storage, the infamous "Art Dreco" collection is once again on public display. Paul Drexler, founder of the Art Dreco Institute, coined the term to describe art that "shines and stinks, like a rotten mackerel by moonlight." The Paxton Gate show includes more than 80 art dreco knickknacks, paintings, photographs, and LPs, many of them for sale. Look no further, lovers of cheap homemade lamps, tasteless taxidermy, and Tammy Faye Baker ephemera. The public is invited to bring pieces of would-be dreco to the "Art Dreco Roadshow" Sat/28. Officials will be present to authenticate works that qualify under the institute's rigorously low standards. Through Aug 19. (Westbrook)

project rm 49 Geary, Ste 440; 296-8405. Tues-Sat, 10:30am-5:30pm. "Variations," works on paper by Robert McGill, David Mabscott, and Eleanor Mikus. Through Tues/31.

Refusalon 20 Hawthorne; 546-0158. Tues-Sat, 10am-6pm. "By Appointment," works by 11 artists shown by appointment only. Through Tues/31.

S.F. Art Institute Walter and McBean Galleries, 800 Chestnut; 749-4563. Mon-Sat, 11am-6pm. "Lurid Stories," works by Charles Gaines. Through Sat/28.

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Artists Gallery Fort Mason, Bldg A, Marina at Laguna; 441-4777. Tues-Sat, 11:30am-5:30pm. Paintings by Mark Ashworth; sculpture by Peter De Swart, Robert Magasco Murray, and Rose Kelly. Through Fri/27.

San Francisco Women Artists Gallery 370 Hayes; 552-SFWA. Tues-Sat, 11am-6pm; Thurs, 11am-8pm; second and third Sun, 1-4:30pm. "Age of Innocence," mixed-media works. Through Sat/28.

Andrea Schwartz 333 Bryant; 495-2090. Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm. "Lost and Found," pastel and mixed media on paper by Paul Gibson. Through Fri/27.

Marcel Sitcoske 251 Post; 434-4804. Tues-Sat, 10am-6pm; Mon, by appt. Works by Robert Harms and Hunt Slonem (reception Thurs/26, 5-7pm). Through Aug 25.

Virgil Skye Gallery 980 Sutter; 409-1100. By appt only. "Naked Angel," photographs of male nudes. Through Sat/28.

Don Soker Contemporary Art 49 Geary; 291-0966. Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5pm. "Unseen," photographic installation by Heidi Struble. Through Sun/29.

SomArts 934 Brannan; 552-2131. Tues-Sat, noon-4pm. "L.A. Longshore at Work," photographs by Slobodan Dimitrov. Through Tues/31.

Space 743 743 Harrison; 777-9080. Wed-Sat, noon-5pm; also by appointment. "Life after Death: Embracing the Queer Widow," works by various artists. Through Sat/28.

Squint 678 Geary; 430-2160, ext 2716. Call for hours. Recent work by Laura Plageman and Melissa Chevalier. Through Wed/1.

3A Garage Architecture Gallery 27 South Park; 543-3347. Tues-Fri, 11am-5:30pm. "(a)way station: The Architectural Spaces of Migration," multi-media project by KW:a. Through Fri/3. See Critic's Choice.

Toomey-Tourell Fine Art 49 Geary; 989-6444. Tues-Fri, 11am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5pm. Works by Matthew Picton and Danny Shain. Through Tues/31.

Continued on page 210

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stage

calendar

theater, dance, spoken word,
comedy & performance

Galleries

From page 209

Triangle Gallery 47 Kearny; 392-1686. Tues-Sat, 11am-5pm. "Summer Exhibition," sculpture by Joseph Romano; paintings by Louis Siegfried and Richard Wilson. Both exhibits through Sat/28.

Velvet da Vinci 508 Hayes; 626-7478. Tues-Sat, noon-6pm; Sun, noon-4pm. "Bounce," installation by Hilary Pfeifer; new jewelry from April Higashi. Through Tues/31.

Bay Area

Ardency Gallery 709 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 836-0831. Call for hours. "Leaves of Life," works by Ivy Jacobsen. Through Sat/28.

Babilonia 180B 1808 Fifth St, Berk; (510) 549-1808. Wed-Sat, 11am-6pm. Works by Francesca Enriquez and Kara Maria. Through Sat/28.

Blithe Spirit 18 E Blithedale, Mill Valley; (415) 383-6427. Tues-Sat, 11am-6pm; Sun, noon-6pm. Selected works from the National Institute of Arts and Disabilities. Through Tues/31.

Communications Technology Cluster The Rotunda Building, Second fl, 1501 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 836-8985, ext 1101. Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm. Paintings, prints, and photographs by Barbara DiNucci Hendrickson. Through Tues/31.

Fig Tree Gallery 2599 Eighth St, Space no. 42, Berk; (510) 540-7843. Sat-Sun, 11am-5pm and by appt. "Regarding the Figure: Interpreting the Human Form," paintings, drawings, sculpture, and mixed media by East Bay artists. Through Sat/29.

Mill Valley Art Commission Mill Valley Community Center, 180 Camino Alto; (415) 383-1370. Call for hours. "Nearly Normal," color photographs by Alan Babbitt. Through Tues/31.

Nexus 2701 Eighth St, Berk; (510) 486-8118. Tues-Fri, 1-6pm; Sat, 11am-3pm and by appt. "Caution," new works by Lily Cox-Richard, Rebecca Kay, and Andrew J. Phares (reception Fri/27, 7-10pm). Through Sun/29.

Pacific Art League of Palo Alto 668 Ramona, Palo Alto; (650) 321-3891. Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm; Sat, 10am-4pm. "Long Hot Summer," mixed-media works by various artists. Through Fri/27. "As I See It," watercolors by Lorraine Hughes. Through Tues/31.

PhotoCentral Gallery 1099 E St, Hayward; (510) 881-6721. Mon-Thurs, 6:30-9:30pm. "The Ninth Annual Women's Exhibition: Creativity from Ghost Ranch, New Mexico," works by various artists. Through Mon/30.

Pusod 1808 Fifth St, Berk; (510) 883-1808. Tues-Sat, 11am-6pm. "Colored: Black 'n White - Filipinos in American Popular Media, 1896-1907," political cartoons and newspapers. Extended through Mon/30.

Women's Cancer Resource Center Gallery 3023 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 548-9286, ext 307. Tues-Thurs, 1-7pm; Sat, noon-4pm and by appt. "Sistahs: Ethnographic Ceramics," works by Renata Gray (reception Sun/29, 1-3pm). Through Aug 22.

theater

Opening

Los 7 Magnificos Phoenix Theatre, 653 Geary; 289-6766. \$12-15. Opens Thurs/26, 8pm. Runs Thurs-Sat, 8pm. Through Aug 25. See Critic's Choice.

Macbeth Il Teatro 450, 449 Powell; 433-1172 \$17-20 (gala Sat/28, \$30). Opens Fri/27, 8pm. Runs Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7pm (no show Aug 5; also Aug 18, 2pm). Through Aug 19. Shakespeare Etc. performs the Bard's witchy tale.

Manifest: The Battle of Intergalactic Forces Exit Cafe, 156 Eddy; 285-5275. \$10-15 (Mon/30, pay what you can). Opens Sat/28, 8:30pm. Runs Fri-Sat, 8:30pm (also Mon/30, 8:30pm). Through Aug 11. The Surreal Foolz present this "Underground MetaPhysical Theatre" production written and performed by Serene Zloof.

Mary in the Hydrangea Bush Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa; 626-6715. \$13-20. Opens Thurs/26, 8pm. Runs Thurs-Sat, 8pm (also Aug 5 and Aug 19, 2pm). Through Aug 19. Local playwright Joe Besecker's new play is a comedy about two couples grappling with the aftereffects of a "ménage à quatre."

The Mikado Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Howard; 978-2787. \$10-38 (Wed/1, pay what you can). Opens Fri/27, 8pm. Runs Sat/28, Wed/1-Sat/4, 8pm (also Sat/4, 2pm); Sun/29, Sun/5, 2pm. The Lamplighters perform the Gilbert and Sullivan classic.

1 of 8 Bindlestiff Studio, 185 Sixth St; 974-1167. \$10-12. Opens Thurs/26, 8pm. Runs Thurs-Sat, 8pm. Through Aug 11. See 8 Days a Week, page 182.

Othello Phoenix II Theatre, 655 Geary; 453-2507. \$18 (Thurs, pay what you can). Previews Thurs/26, 8pm. Opens Fri/27, 8pm. Runs Thurs-Sat, 8pm. Through Aug 25. Guerilla Shakespeare takes on the classic tragedy.

stage

Stage listings are compiled by Cheryl Eddy. Performance times may change; call venues to confirm. Reviewers are Robert Avila, Rita Feliciano, and Brad Rosenstein. Dance commentator is Sima Belmar. See 8 Days a Week for information on how to submit items to the listings.

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Free performance at Yerba Buena Gardens (701 Mission St @ 3rd) • Sat. July 28 @ 1pm

Collapsing Silence, Kinji Hayashi and Seth Eisen. Pre-show by Brechin Flournoy

road. Founded 16 years ago by sisters Amy and Elizabeth Ziff and Alyson Palmer, *Betty* displays a palpable bond that finds its truest expression in the trio's crystalline harmonies. Druggie dyke Elizabeth, towering glamazon Alyson, and fleshy hyperdiva Amy make for a strangely melodious fugue of difference — it's as if the Andrews Sisters had gone alternative and decided to play the Island of Misfit Toys. The bandmates fire off machine-gun barrages of communal banter, shlick, and attitude, and when the group rocks out, the breeze is terrific. (Rosenstein) **Burn This** *The Next Stage*, 1620 Gough; 359-0880. \$15. Fri-Sun, 8pm. Through Aug 12. Bare Bones Theatre presents this play by Lanford Wilson about relationships and love. **The Complete History of America (Abridged)** *Shelton Theater*, 533 Sutter; 267-7661. Fri, 8pm; Sat-Sun, 7pm (also Sat, 10pm). Through Sept 1. The Free Range Company performs an "irreverent romp through American history." **Deep Cut** *Thick House*, 1695 18th St; (510) 986-9194. \$18. Thurs/26-Sun/29, 8pm. Hal Gelb directs this play by Karim Alrawi explores the subject of female circumcision. **Don't Make Me Look Too Psychotic** *Bannan Place Theater*, 50A Bannan; 986-4607. Thurs-Sat, 8pm, \$15-18. Open-ended. Violently unhealthy relationships are the driving force behind Bruce Pachtman's hilarious solo show. Pachtman developed this autobiographical piece after dating a particularly incendiary woman. *Psychotic* is gut-bustingly funny, which is no small feat considering the seriousness of the material. (Joshua Medsker) **A Few Gay Men** *Venue 9*, 252 Ninth St; (866) 468-3399. \$15-20. Thurs/26-Sat/28, 8pm; Sun/29, 7pm. Ronnie Larsen directs his documentary-style play based on interviews with gay men about their personal lives. **Fool Moon** *Geary Theater*, 415 Geary; 749-2228. \$11-61. Wed/25-Sat/28, Tues/31-Sat/4,

Aug 7-11, 8pm (also Sat/28-Sun/29, Wed/1, Sat/4-Sun/5, Aug 11-12, 2pm); Sun/29 and Aug 12, 7pm. Through Aug 12. Physical comedians Bill Irwin and David Shiner enlist musicians the Red Clay Ramblers (and audience members) in their chaotic performance. **Forever Plaid** *New Conservatory Theatre Center*, 25 Van Ness; 861-8972. \$16-32. Extended run: Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Sun/29, 2pm. Through Sat/4. New Conservatory Theatre Center presents this musical about a group of singers who are brought back from the dead to sing at the concert they never had a chance to perform. **Girl Meets Girl** *Theatre Rhinoceros*, 2926 16th St; 861-5079. \$20-25. Wed-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7pm. Through Sun/5. This comedy by Maddy Alexander and Sally Stover explores how a woman's lesbian relationship affects her circle of friends. **The Home Project** *Jon Sinus Center for the Performing Arts*, 1519 Mission; 430-2161, ext 2150. \$10-20. Sat/28-Sun/29, 8pm. This "documentary performance," features monologues and a video depicting local residents explaining what the concept of home means to them. **Late Night Catechism** *Union Square Playhouse*, 340 Mason; 877-FUNNY-NUN. \$39. Thurs-Sat, 8pm (also Sat, 5pm); Sun, 3pm. Open ended. Maripat Donovan stars as a nun teaching an adult catechism class. **Lonely Planet** *Exit Theater*, 156 Eddy; 673-3847. \$12-18. Fri-Sat, Mon/30, 8pm. Through Sat/4. Unconventional Theatre performs Steven Dietz's play inspired by Ionesco's classic absurdist tale *The Chairs*. **S.F. Mime Troupe's 1600 Transylvania Avenue** *Upcoming shows: Sat/4, 2pm, Pioneer East, Golden Gate Park (JFK East of Stowe Lake Dr, behind the De Young Museum); Sun/5, 2pm, Yerba Buena Gardens, Third St at Mission. Free. (415) 285-1717. For complete schedule go to www.sfmt.org. Through Sept 3. Ever since Dubya and Cheney Inc.*

merged with Supreme Court Ltd. and acquired the White House, it's been pretty plain who's really running the American show. Our country's bottom-line hegemony is again a fat, juicy target for the San Francisco Mime Troupe. It's not the first time the S.F. Mime Troupe has used Dracula as a metaphor for corporate bloodsucking; the piece does better on more original ground as Shamina Jones (Velina Brown) unveils her invention of stop.com, an energy-saving device that literally stops commercialism in its tracks. The script, by director Michael Gene Sullivan and Ellen Callas, is pretty thin stuff that relies more on bald sloganeering than theatrical resources. Brown, Ed Holmes, and Conrad Cimarra all do bright work, but even the songs by Bruce Barthol and Jason Sherbundy seem a bit bloodless and pale; it's as if the creatures of the night have actually won. (Rosenstein) **Talking With Angels** *ODC Theater*, 3153 17th St; 863-9834. Thurs/26-Sat/28, 8pm; Sun/29, 7pm. \$15-20. Shelley Mitchell has adapted and performs Gitta Mallasz's documentation of four artists reacting to the Holocaust in Nazi-occupied Hungary.

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SEE PAGE 157

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critic's choice: stage

'Los 7 Magnificos'

July 26-Aug. 25, Phoenix Theatre

Pass off your closet WWF Smackdown addiction as culture with the Thunderbird Theater Company's *Los 7 Magnificos*, an original stage parody of the Kurosawa classic *Seven Samurai* and its western incarnation *The Magnificent Seven*. This time around the heroes are masked Mexican wrestlers squeezed into black spandex bodysuits, and the bad guys are from a small puritan community famous for its oatmeal. Drastic measures must be taken when good Quakers go bad and descend on a hippie commune in Santa Cruz, hell-bent on commandeering the local pot harvest. Knowing their atrophied muscles won't be enough to fend off the vicious Quakers, the hippies look for guidance from the ubiquitous Jerry Garcia, reincarnated as the owner of the land on which they've been squatting. Randomly yet wisely, he suggests they employ a roaming band of wrestlers for protection, so the hippies head down to a little bar in Tijuana called El Gringo Muerte in search of the bondage-lite grapplers known as the *luchadores*. The Great Tanaka, El Pollo Loco, Señor Roboto, Montezuma, Chico (and the Man), and El Moro (the Yul Brynner of the *luchadores*) storm Cali, where the marauding Quakers soon find themselves in enough hot water to provide nutritious yet hearty breakfasts for weeks. Suffice it to say, this unconventional play looks to be an entertaining evening in the making. *Through Aug. 25. Opens Thurs/26, 8 p.m. Runs Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m., 653 Geary, S.F. \$12-\$15. (415) 289-6766. (Sarah Lidgus)*



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Director: Barbara Heroux
Conductor: Baker Peeples

www.lamplighters.org

Theater

From page 211

Fri/27-Sat/28, 8:30pm (also Sat/28, 5pm); Sun/29, 3 and 7pm. Eve Ensler's play continues its San Francisco run with a cast including Diane Amos, Michelle Clunie and Barbara Rush.

Bay Area

Comedy of Errors *This week: Sat/28, 1pm, Mosswood Park, 3612 Webster, Oakl; Sun/29, 1pm, Dimond Park, 3860 Hanly, Oakl. Free. (415) 567-1758, www.womanswill.org. Through Aug 19.* Woman's Will presents park performances of Shakespeare's comedy.

The Great Sebastians *Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 528-5620. \$10. Fri-Sat and Aug 9, 8pm. Through Aug 11.* Actors Ensemble of Berkeley performs this comedy about a communist general who falls for a mind-reading stage act.

Iphigenia in Aulis *John Hinkel Park, Southampton and Arlington, Berk; (510) 655-0813. Free. Sat-Sun, 5pm (also Aug 12, 7am). Through Aug 12.* The Shotgun Players tackle Euripides' play, a prolonged debate on parental and national responsibility, reli-

gious and political expediency, and what a June bride should wear to her sacrifice.

Opening at the oh-so-Grecian amphitheater of Berkeley's John Hinkel Park, this summer touring production features director Patrick Dooley's deft cut-and-paste text of various gracious translations. Mary Eaton Fairfield is her usual exceptional self as both Menelaus and Clytemnestra, and with Jeff Elam, who doubles as Agamemnon and Achilles, she constitutes the spine of this production, moving from masked stylization to unmasked poetic naturalism with ease. The judiciously used mask convention, like Andrea Weber's geometric choral choreography and the Greek-inflected live music of the trio Goatsong, is a cunning adaptation of tradition, yet the production overall has a curiously reverential feel. Like Shotgun's last venture into Greek territory, *The Bacchae*, the whole enterprise feels bright, energetic, well thought out — but a little too careful and just a little dull. (Rosenstein)

Loot La Val's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid, Berk; (510) 655-0813. \$10-15. Thurs-Sat and Aug 20, 8pm; Sun, 7pm. Through Aug 25. The Shotgun Players present Joe Orton's play about the British bourgeoisie of the 1960s.

• **The Merry Wives of Windsor** *This week: Amador Community Park, Pleasanton; (415) 422-2222. Free. Fri-Sun, 7:30pm. At this location through Sun/5; show runs through Sept 30.* The San Francisco Shakespeare Festival's 10th season of free Shakespeare in the park showcases a saucy comedy of husbands and wives. First performed in 1604, the play brings back Shakespeare's popular wayward knight, John Falstaff (Robert Sicular), at the behest of Queen Elizabeth I, who reportedly wished to see him make love not war. Here Falstaff schemes to wrest riches from two of Windsor's leading citizens by pitching woo to their wives, Mistresses Page (Kay Kostopoulos) and Ford (Elizabeth Carter). Too clever for Sir John, the women quickly uncover his plan and succeed in having their own way with him. Meanwhile, young Fenton (Amir Talai) seeks the hand of Anne Page (Afi Ayan-na Shepard-Staley) but will have to overcome her parents, who each have an ideal suitor in mind for their daughter. It's love Elizabethan style. An excellent cast — anchored by the theatrical girth of Shakespeare's best rascally knave, expertly wrought by Sicular — together with director Joan Mankin's lively staging make this fun (if longish) play sail along rather effortlessly. (Avila)

• **A Midsummer Night's Dream** *UC Santa Cruz, Sinsheimer-Stanley Festival Glen, Santa Cruz; (831) 459-2159. \$22-33. Sat/28-Sun/29, Thurs/2, 2pm (also Sun/29, Thurs/2, 7:30pm); Fri/27, Sat/4, 8pm (for complete schedule go to www.shakespearesantacruz.org). Through Sept 1.* It's hard to say which memory stands out more: the lovely redwood grove surrounding Shakespeare Santa Cruz's Festival Glen or the irresistible scene-stealing energy Triney Sandoval brings to Oberon's errand boy Puck in this Tim Ocel-directed production. The play checks in on one wild night: lovers are star crossed, criss-crossed, and double crossed; a workman makes an ass out of himself, literally; and a marauding posse of fairies — every appearance is heralded by squalling punk metal — plays games on the world and on one another. SSC's production is upbeat and, for the most part, tight as a drum, with delicacy sacrificed for energy; irreverence, as you'd expect from SSC, is the order of the day. Husky-voiced Mhari Sandoval is a sensual, magnetic Titania, and the young cast for the most part rises to the occasion. Scenic designer Dipu Gupta pulls off some practical wizardry, transforming a formal estate drawing room into a forest with a falling redwood and a couple of collapsing walls. You've got to see it to believe it, and see it you must. (J.H. Tompkins)

Orphans *Speakeasy Theatre, 2016 Seventh St, Berk; (510) 326-8493. \$15. Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7pm. Through Sun/5.* Lyle Kessler's play follows the lives of two orphaned brothers whose world changes when they meet a mysterious stranger.

Romeo and Juliet *Calle del Mar, Highway 1, Stinson Beach; (415) 868-1115. \$10-20. Fri-Sat, 7pm; Sun, 6pm. Through Aug 26.* Shakespeare at Stinson sets Shakespeare's classic in a jazz-filled urban neighborhood during the 1940s.

The Skin of Our Teeth *Bruno Memorial Amphitheater, Gateway exit, Hwy 24, Orinda; (510) 548-9666. \$22-41. Wed/25-Thurs/26, 7:30pm; Fri/27-Sat/28, 8pm (also Sat/28, 2pm); Sun/29, 4pm.* Thornton Wilder's epic comedy of the Antrobus family, who live simultaneously in a 1940s New Jersey suburb and throughout the range of prehistoric time, ironically has not aged well. Director Richard Hamburger tries to make the play more contemporarily "relevant," setting each of the three acts in a different decade of postwar America, from the 1950s to the present. At first glance this time hopping might seem synchronous with Wilder's own kaleidoscopic view of history, but it simply piles more metaphors on a play already top-heavy with them. There are some wonderfully dimensional performances by Paul Vincent O'Connor and Lorri Holt as Mr. and Mrs. Antrobus, and Kathleen McNenny's Sabina is strong and funny, but the production never moves beyond a certain flatness. Wilder's shooting-for-the-fences here comes off as merely pretentious; even the outdoor scale of the Bruno Amphitheater seems wrong for this play. Wilder was the poet of the eternal in miniature — epic was not his form. (Rosenstein)

dance

'Sam Francisco Butoh Festival Performance' *Yerba Buena Gardens, Mission at Third St; 453-9678. Sat, 1pm. Free. Get a jump on next week's San Francisco Butoh Festival with this free pre-fest outdoor performance.*

'10 Minutes Max' *The Marsh, 1062 Valencia; 826-5750. Fri-Sat, 8pm. \$12.* As part of the Dancers' Group Summer Dance Festival, up-and-coming Bay Area choreographers showcase their work.

Bay Area

'Approaching the Fire' *University Theater, CSU Hayward, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd, Hayward; (510) 885-3261. Sun, 7pm. \$5-10.* Eric Kupers presents a full evening of dance works.

'Waves of Rhythm' *Showcase Theatre, Marin Center, Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael; (415) 472-3500. Sat, 8pm; Sun, 3pm. Call for price.* Carolina Lugo's *Brisas de España* perform flamenco dance.

performance

'Cabaret Showcase' *Piaf's, 1686 Market; 864-3700. Thurs, 8:30pm. \$5.* This weekly showcase features local performers (including audience members) and new artists.

Free concert to end violence against queer youth *Justin Herman Plaza, One Embarcadero Center; 362-3250. 5-7pm, free.* Human Rights Watch sponsors this event, featuring music by De'Braih and poetry by Youth Speaks.

'Guys 'R Doin' *Santa Rosa ferry boat, Pier 3, Embarcadero; 551-9785. Fri-Sat, 8 and 10pm. Ongoing. \$39.95.* Brian Keith hosts a female-impersonation revue featuring comedy, elegant costumes, and theatrical performance.

'Love and Laughter' *Plush Room, 940 Sutter; 885-2800. Sat, 8pm; Sun, 3pm. Through Aug 5.* Call for price. Cabaret performer Steve Ross presents his latest show.

'New Plays New Forms' *A Traveling Jewish Theatre, 470 Florida; 399-1809. Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7pm. \$10.* A Traveling Jewish Theatre presents new plays with Jewish themes: "The Grandmother Project," by Jennifer Lindsay (Fri); "Isaac," by David Schulner (Sat); and "The Operated Jew," by C.K. Williams (Sun).

'Passion of the Bees' *Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission; 554-0402. Fri, 8pm. \$5-10.* Artist in residence Carolyn Cooley performs.

'Science on Stage' *McBean Theater, Exploratorium, 3601 Lyon; EXP-LORE. Wed, 7pm. \$10.* This week's play in the four-part series is "Moving Picture" by Dan O'Brien, a slapstick look at Thomas Edison.

'Temp Slave: The Musical' *SonArts, 934 Brannan; 642-8066. Fri and Sun, 7:30pm (also Sun, 2pm). \$12.* As part of Laborfest, the Mercury Players Theatre Company performs a musical comedy about "America's disposable workers."

'Time on Fire' *Magic Theatre, Fort Mason Center, Marina at Laguna; 749-2ACT.* Previews Thurs/26-Fri/27, 7:30pm; Sat/28, 2pm. Opens Sat/28, 7:30pm. Runs Sun/29, Thurs/2-Sun/5, 7:30pm (also Sun/29, Sat/4-Sun/5, 2pm). \$7.50-15. The ACT Young Conservatory performs a new play by Timothy Mason.

'Unnatural Acts' *Foley's Celler, 243 O'Farrell; 954-0777. Mon, 8pm. \$10.* This vaudeville cabaret features music, magic, burlesque dancing, and more.

Continued on page 214



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Berkeley - United Artists Movies
Castro Valley - New Chabot
Concord - Brenden 14
Danville - Blackhawk Movies 7
Dublin - Regal Hacienda Crossing 20
Emeryville - United Artists Emory Bay
Hayward - Mann Festival
Livermore - Vino
Martinez - Contra Costa Cinema 5
Newark - Century Cinedome 7
Oakland - Renaissance's Grand Lake
Oakland - Signature Jack London Cinema
Orinda - Renaissance's Orinda
Pinole - Century 10
Pittsburg - Brenden 16
San Leandro - Century Bayfair Mall 16

San Ramon - Signature Crow Canyon
Union City - Century 25
Walnut Creek - Signature Festival
Concord - Century Solano DI
PENINSULA
Burlingame - Century Hyatt
Pacific - Seavue
Redwood City - Century Park 12
SAN JOSE
Gilroy - Platinum
Hollister - Premiere
Milpitas - Century 20 Great Mall
Morgan Hill - Cinema 6
Mountain View - Century Cinema 16
San Jose - Century 10 Berryessa
San Jose - Century
San Jose - Century Capitol 16
Santa Clara - AMC Mercado 20

San Jose - Century Capitol DI
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FAIRFAX - Cinema West Fairfax
NOVATO - Pacific's Rowland Plaza
SAN RAFAEL - Pacific's Regency
NORTH COUNTIES
Cloverdale - Cinema West Clover 4
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Lakeport - Lakeport Cinema
Napa - Century Cinedome
Rohnert Park - Pacific's Rohnert Park 16
Santa Rosa - Airport Cinema
Santa Rosa - Roxy Stadium 14
Sebastopol - Cinema West Sebastopol
Sonoma - Sonoma Cinema 6
Vacaville - Brenden 16
Vallejo - Century 14

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"OUR SONG" OPENS IN THEATRES ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 3RD

Performance

From page 212

'USDA Summerfest' Door 43, 43 Dore Alley; 430-2161. \$8-12. Thurs-Sun, 8pm. \$8-12. The Underground SOMA Drama Association presents two plays performed together: "Cell Out," by George McKibbens, Eddie Llorenty, and Inja Crockett, and "The Glitterman," by Charlie Getter.

'Voicepaper, Sent, and Humanspace' San Francisco Art Institute, 800 Chestnut; 771-7020. Fri, 9pm. \$7. This one-night exhibition features site-specific installation art, electronic music, and food.

Bay Area

Meg Mackay and Billy Philadelphia Sanchez Concert Hall, 1220 Linda Mar, Pacifica; (650) 355-1882. Sun, 4pm. \$10-15. The husband-and-wife cabaret team performs.

'Viva Cuba' Fine Arts Theater, College of Marin, Kentfield; (415) 485-9315. Fri-Sat, 8pm. \$8-10. The College of Marin presents a song-and-dance "documentary" about Cuba.

comedy

Brainwash Cafe and Laundromat 1122 Folsom; 861-3663. Thurs, 8pm: Tony Sparks, free.

Luggage Store 1007 Market; 255-5971. Tues, 8pm: open mic with host Tony Sparks, \$1-3.

The Mock Cafe 1074 Valencia; 826-5750, ext 2. Fri, 9pm: preshow, \$7; 10pm: Totally False People sketch comedy, \$7. Sat, 9pm: open mic, \$7; 10pm: "Lori Chapman's Comedy Sampler," \$7.

One World Cafe 1799 McAllister; 776-9358. Fri, 7:30pm: open mic with host Corrine Pettes, free.

Rasselas 1534 Fillmore; 921-2051. Sat, 7pm: San Francisco "Comedy Beat," with comedy, improv, and music, \$7.

Sea Biscuit 3815 Noriega; 661-3784. Wed, 8pm: open mic comedy with hosts Tony Sparks and Tom Smith, free.

Theatre Rhinoceros 2926 16th St; 541-5610. Mon, 8pm: "Monday Night Gay Comedy" with host Maureen Brownsey and guests, \$10.

The Warfield 982 Market; 775-7722. Sat, 6:30pm: Jim Breuer, call (415) 421-TIXS for ticket info.

Bay Area

Café Eclectica 1309 Solano, Berk; (510) 527-2344. Sat, 8pm: "SF Improv" comedy show, free.

spoken word

Open mics take place almost every night in cafés throughout the Bay Area. If you want to perform, show up about half an hour before start time to put your name on the list. A day-by-day guide to word events and featured readers:

Wednesday: La Peña Cultural Center 3105 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 849-2568. "Café Poetry," hosted by Wanda Sabir with the Peralta Press Poets, 7:30pm. \$2. World Ground Café 3726 MacArthur, Oakl; (510) 482-2933. Spoken word and poetry reading featuring the Rhythmic Revolution, 7-9pm, free.

Thursday: 26 Mix 3024 Mission; 248-1319. "The Bored Collective," hosted by Holly Roberts and featuring readings by DJ Polywog, Audio Angel, Mr. Brown, Andie P. Cotton, Beth Lisick, Hans Kaufman, and others, plus music by Velocette, DJ Anon, and DJ Jonah Sharp, 9pm. \$5. Café 1428 Alice, Oakl; (510) 239-2239, ext 2899. "Poet Skool! The AfroNeoPolyTan Poetry Series," with host Paradise Freejahlove, 7-10pm, free.

Friday: Dalva 3121 16th St; (925) 216-3592. "Poetry Mission" hosted by Harvey, 7pm, free.

Friday: Yakety Yak 679 Sutter; 351-2090. "Friday Night Poetry at the Yak," featuring H.D. Moe, followed by open reading, 7pm, free. Rockin' Java 1821 Haight; 831-8842. Under 21 open mic, 6-9pm, free.

Saturday: Somarts 934 Brannan; 552-9261. National Poetry Slam send-off, call for time,

\$10-20.

Sunday: Paradise Lounge 1501 Folsom; 621-1911. "Poetry above Paradise," with featured reader and open mic, 8pm, free.

Monday: Café de la Paz 1600 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 843-0662. "Poetry Nitro," with host Louis Cuneo and featuring Lisa Sikie, 7pm, free. Notes from Underground 2399 Van Ness; 775-7638. "Celebration of the Word," 7:30pm, free. Rasselas 1534 Fillmore; 346-8696. Open mic, 8pm, free.

Tuesday: Rockin' Java 1821 Haight; 831-8842. "Open Mind Open Mic," with host Carvell, 8pm, free. Bird and Beckett 2788 Diamond; 586-3733. Diane DiPrima reads poetry, 7:30pm, free. Intersection for the Arts 446 Valencia; 626-2787. "Molotov Mouths: Emerging Poets of the Political Imagination" featuring Ananda Esteve, Chana Morgenstern, George Tirado, and James Tracy, 7pm, \$4-10.

film

Film listings are edited by Cheryl Eddy. Reviewers are Sabrina Crawford, David Fear, Dina Gachman, Susan Gerhardt, Dennis Harvey, Johnny Ray Huston, Patrick Macias, Anthoni Patel, and Chuck Stephens. Film intern is Alec Nevalla-Lee. See Rep Clock, page 226, and Movie Clock, page 230, for theater information.

Digital Underground

The San Francisco Independent Film Festival presents the second annual Digital Underground festival July 26-29. The venue is Zeum, 221 Fourth St, S.F. All times are p.m. unless otherwise noted. For more information call (415) 820-3907; for tickets call (415) 421-TIXS or go to www.sfndie.com. For commentary see "Digital Hoedown," page 171.

Thurs/26

Falling Like This with "The Pretty Girl" 8.

Fri/27

Cow Monkey with "The Passenger" 7. "Brief Peeks at Our Shorts" (shorts program) 9.

Sat/28

Cow Monkey with "The Passenger" 1. The Last Stand: Ancient Redwoods and the Bottom Line with "Forever Fourteen" 3. "Four Little Movies" (shorts program) 5. Ozark Savage with "Lulu Takes a Lover" 7. "On the Fringes of Reason" (shorts program) 9.

Sun/29

Ozark Savage with "Lulu Takes a Lover" 1. Modern Tribalism with "Dreaming in Code" 3. Did We Go? with "Crack the CIA" and "Bi: Plane" 5. Everyday with "Freedom Park" 7. Schizophrenia with "The Most Dangerous Game" 9.

San Francisco Jewish Film Festival

The 21st Annual San Francisco Jewish Film Festival takes place July 19-Aug. 6. Venues are the Castro Theatre, 429 Castro, S.F.; Wheeler Auditorium, UC Berkeley, Berk.; Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway, Redwood City; and the Rafael Film Center, 1118 Fourth St., San Rafael. All times are p.m. unless otherwise noted. For more information call (925) 866-9559 or go to www.sjff.org. For commentary see last week's Bay Guardian.

Wed/25

Castro Key from Spain 2. Circumcision 4:30. Love Inventory 6:15. Kippur 9:30.

Continued on page 222

"HILARIOUS!"

-Kevin Thomas, LOS ANGELES TIMES

"Swingers' Meets 'The Sopranos'"

-Mike Szymanski, TRIBUNE PAPERS

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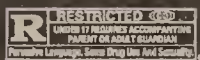
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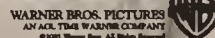
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AUGUST 10TH

Jewish Film Festival

From page 214

Thurs/26

Castro Blue and White in Red Square 1. "Shorts on Love and War" (shorts program) 3:30. "Jewish Girls in Shorts" (shorts program) 5:30. Trembling Before G-d 8.

Sat/28

Wheeler Auditorium The Optimists, The Story of the Rescue of the Jews of Bulgaria 1. Louba's Ghosts 3:30. One of the Hollywood Ten 6:15. Kippur 8:30.

Sun/29

Fox Theatre Louba's Ghosts noon. Kippur 2:30. One of the Hollywood Ten 5:15. Time of Favor 8. Wheeler Auditorium Key from Spain 11a. "Alan Berliner Retrospective: Intimate Stranger and Nobody's Business 1. The Sweetest Sound 4. Once We Grow Up 6. Total Love 8:30.

Mon/30

Fox Theatre The Optimists, The Story of the Rescue of the Jews of Bulgaria 3:30. "Alan Berliner Retrospective: Intimate Stranger and Nobody's Business 6. The Sweetest Sound 9.

Wheeler Auditorium Circumcision 2. Terrorists in Retirement 4. Disparus 6. Street under Fire 8:30.

Tues/31

Fox Theatre Fighter 3:30. Inside Out 6. Promises 8. Wheeler Auditorium Family Secret 3. Love Inventory 5:30. Time of Favor 8:30.

Opening

Brother See "Pearl Harbor: The Sequel," page 169. (1:53) Embarcadero, Shattuck.
Jin-Roh: The Wolf Brigade See Critic's Choice. (1:42) Lumiere, Shattuck.
Made See Movie Clock. (1:45) Bridge, California.
New Rose Hotel See "Dis Abel?," page 171. (1:32) Yerba Buena.
Planet of the Apes Mark Wahlberg (as the astronaut) and Tim Roth (as a damn dirty ape) star in Tim Burton's "reinvention" of the sci-fi tale. (2:00) Alexandria, Colma, Coronet, Emery Bay, Grand Lake, Jack London, Orinda, UA Berkeley.

Ongoing

A.I. (2:26) California, Cinema 21, Colma, Grand Lake, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness.

Continued on page 224

critic's choice: film

'Jin-Roh: The Wolf Brigade'

Past imperfect

Although anime is known on these shores primarily for its doe-eyed heroines and cuddly pocket monsters, the medium's true strength lies not in creating multiproduct franchises but in its ability to craft nightmarish, dystopian landscapes with a frightening attention to detail. The two anime epics arguably best known to Western audiences, *Akira* and *Ghost in the Shell*, combine technological fetish-paranoia with urban wasteland malaise, creating seething opuses of premillennial cyber-funk in that perpetual "not-too-distant future." Add *Jin-Roh: The Wolf Brigade* to the list of Japanese sci-fi meltdown classics; though the film is set in the land of the rising sun's alternate past rather than in a neo-Tokyo future, all of the genre's elements of unease are firmly in place. Japan circa the 1960s has been conquered and occupied by Nazi Germany, and the streets are war zones for rioting militias and counterterrorist factions. Fuse, a member of an elite inner circle of vigilante cops known as the Wolf Brigade, witnesses a young suicide bomber take her own life one night and begins to question his own humanity. His attempt to forge a relationship with the bomber's sister coincides with a federal "elimination" of the brigade. Needless to say, all

hell breaks loose. Even viewers accustomed to anime's labyrinthine story structures will have a hard time keeping track of *Jin-Roh's* plot twists and turns (courtesy of *Ghost* creator Mamoru Oshii's script), but the result is well worth paying close attention. Though the film's animation lacks the hallucinogenic beauty of *Akira* or the onyx sleekness of *Ghost*, neophyte director Hiroyuki Okiura's gorgeous tableaux and chilling use of stillness highlight the existential angst of civil warfare beneath all the stormtrooper chic. Impossible to fully register in a single viewing, *Jin-Roh* strengthens anime's lock on intelligent, layered sci-fi of substance and boundless imagination. Opens Fri/27 at Bay Area theaters. See Movie Clock for show times. (David Fear)



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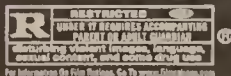
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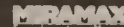
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film calendar

first runs, rep films,
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Ongoing

From page 222

America's Sweethearts When disaster strikes the marriage of Hollywood icons Gwen (Catherine Zeta-Jones) and Eddie (John Cusack) shortly before the premiere of their latest picture, it's up to publicist Lee Phillips (Billy Crystal) and Gwen's ugly-duckling sister Kiki (Julia Roberts) to salvage things at an upcoming press junket. Given the number of high-profile celebrity breakups in recent years, the timing of this would-be screwball comedy couldn't be better: the only thing missing is Russell Crowe. (As Gwen's illicit lover, Hank Azaria sports a ridiculous Spanish accent when an Australian one might have been more apropos.) Alas, a few moments of sharp satire quickly yield to tired lampooning, with far too much talent competing for space. When the script pushes them together, Roberts and Cusack make an appealing romantic couple, but they're squeezed aside by Crystal's standard shtick and a cloying wave of cuteness. (1:46) Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Empire, Grand Lake, Jack London, Kabuki, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness, Orinda, Shattuck, Vigne. (Nevala-Lee)

American Cuisine (1:32) Rafael.

The Anniversary Party (1:55) Albany, Embarcadero, Piedmont.

Atlantis: The Lost Empire (1:28) 1000 Van Ness, Shattuck.

Baby Boy (1:37) Colma, Jack London, Metreon.

Bridget Jones's Diary (1:35) Galaxy, Oaks.

Bully (1:56) Lumiere.

Cats and Dogs (1:23) Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Jack London, Kabuki, Metreon, Oaks, 1000 Van Ness.

The Closet (1:25) Albany, Clay, Piedmont.

crazy/beautiful (1:35) Metreon, 1000 Van Ness.

Dolphins (4:00) Metreon Imax.

Dr. Dolittle 2 (1:28) Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Metreon.

Everybody's Famous! (1:40) Opera Plaza.

Extreme (0:44) Metreon Imax.

The Fast and the Furious (1:47) Colma, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness.

Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within (1:41) Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Kabuki, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness, UA Berkeley.

Hedwig and the Angry Inch After a long victory lap through the festival circuit, the angry inch has grown in reputation if not size. John Cameron Mitchell's adaptation of his glam-rock stage show may not be as ear-splitting or funny as it was off-Broadway, but one can only be glad that Hedwig, the German transsexual rocker with a botched sex-change and a psychotic obsession with the kid rock star he once baby-sat, is finally reaching the masses. The storied life—barbaric boyhood in Berlin to Midwestern army wifehood to diva in depression—is recounted by Hedwig herself with odd Teutonic flair, as she gyrates in the face of bored middle America in blond feathered Farrah wings made to Statue of Liberty proportions. The palette has changed from the bleak black of a lonely stage to the vibrant candy colors of a plasticine cinematic world, but that only serves to heighten the solitude of Hedwig's quest for love. (1:45) Act I and II, Embarcadero. (Gerhard)

Himalaya (1:44) Four Star, Rafael.

Jurassic Park 3 Like its precursors, Jurassic Park 3 is nothing less than a crash course in natural selection Hollywood-style: it strands a group of most expendable actors in the jungle, surrounds them with nasty raptors, and invites the audience to guess who gets eaten first. Will it be the black guy? The hald guy? Or William H. Macy? The nice thing about JP3 is that it follows its formula with a minimum of fuss, jettisoning Spielbergian pretensions in favor of solid B-movie mayhem. Funnier and more streamlined than its predecessors, this installment benefits from the presence of Macy, Sam Neill, Tea Leoni (the human piñata), and a flock of terrific-looking pterosaurs. Missed opportunities abound, and the ending is a major flop, but staggering dinosaur effects and a fair amount of ingenuity show that this franchise still has most of its teeth. (1:32) Alexandria, Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Empire, Grand Lake,

Jack London, Kabuki, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness, Presidio, UA Berkeley. (Nevala-Lee)

Kiss of the Dragon (1:38) Alexandria, Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Galaxy, Jack London, Kabuki, Metreon, Stonestown, UA Berkeley.

Legally Blonde (1:36) Colma, Emery Bay, Jack London, Kabuki, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness, Stonestown, UA Berkeley.

Lost and Delirious (1:40) Balboa, Oaks.

Love on a Diet Recently occupying the number-one box-office slot in Hong Kong, *Love on a Diet* is currently the freakiest movie ticket in town. Two of H.K.'s most beloved beanpole stars, Sammi Cheng and Andy Lau, are strapped into fat suits and adorned with rubbery prosthetic limbs to play a pair of swollen, love-struck blimps. Writer-directors Johnnie To and Wai Ka-Fai were known for crime flicks like *The Mission* before they went all romantic with last year's *Needing You*. Happily, they are doing the mushy stuff with as much subversive humor as they did gangland shoot-outs. If you can stomach the film's lengthy stretches of crudely to corpulent people, you might even find yourself agreeing: in the right hands, and with the right actors, some things go better with fat. (1:35) Four Star. (Macias)

Memento (1:56) Lumiere, Rafael, Shattuck.

Moulin Rouge (2:06) Balboa, 1000 Van Ness, Orinda, UA Berkeley, Vigne.

Pearl Harbor (3:03) Galaxy.

The Road Home (1:29) Four Star.

Scary Movie 2 (1:35) Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Jack London, Metreon, Oaks, 1000 Van Ness.

The Score (2:03) Century Plaza, Emery Bay, Empire, Galaxy, Jack London, Kabuki, Metro, Metreon, Shattuck.

Sexy Beast (1:31) Act I and II, Embarcadero, Piedmont.

Shrek (1:27) Century Plaza, Grand Lake, Kabuki, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness, Orinda, UA Berkeley.

Songcatcher (1:45) Four Star, Shattuck.

Startup.com (1:43) Balboa, Opera Plaza.

Swordfish (1:37) Metreon, Shattuck.

Tomb Raider (1:43) Century Plaza, Metreon, 1000 Van Ness.

Under the Sand (1:35) Four Star.

Vertical Ray of the Sun (1:52) Opera Plaza, Shattuck.

With a Friend like Harry (1:57) Balboa, California, Opera Plaza.

Rep picks

"Jet Li Film Festival" Seen *Kiss of the Dragon*? Hungry for more high-flying Jet Li action? In a sort of extension of the recent "Hidden Dragons" martial arts film series, the Four Star presents seven weeks of classics that showcase some of Li's finest performances. This week: Wong Jing works the controls in *The New Legend of Shaolin* (1992), and Wong Lung Wei stars in the Shaw Brothers' 1985 *This Man Is Dangerous*. Four Star. (Eddy)

Kiss of the Spider Woman Confined to a South American prison cell for most of its length, director Hector Babenco's 1985 film adaptation of Manuel Puig's *Kiss of the Spider Woman* follows two men of opposite ethical and personal types—one (Raul Julia) a hardened resistance fighter, the other (William Hurt) a flamboyant homosexual—as they tell stories, share memories, and ultimately come to understand and love each other. As a parable for tolerance, it seems to have struck a nerve among Reagan-era audiences. *Kiss* was nominated for a Best Picture Oscar—a first for an independent film—and Hurt won the Best Actor award. But at a time when the cultural climate sometimes feels like a throwback to the mid 1980s, the rerelease of Babenco's movie reveals a work that stubbornly refuses to offer an easy political message. Even when we think we've figured out the characters, *Kiss* springs twists that call all of our assumptions into question—everything can be read both ways, including Hurt's tales of femmes fatales and spider women, recreated in gorgeous fantasy sequences with Brazilian star Sonia Braga. Each man finds his peace through a migration into the other's dreams: in a senseless world, escape means exchanging one illusion for another. (1:55) Castro, Rafael. (Nevala-Lee)

Monty Python and the Holy Grail (1:30) Opera Plaza, Shattuck. ❖

USA TODAY, Larry King

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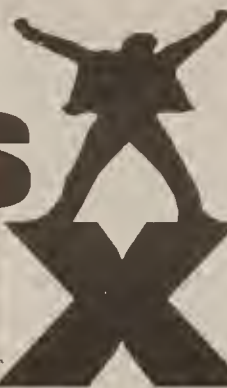
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film rep clock calendar repertory theater schedules

Schedules are for Wed/25 through Tues/31 except where noted. Double features are noted with a •. Director and year are given when available.

ARTISTS' TELEVISION ACCESS 992 Valencia; 824-3890. "LGBT presents Pride at Work": • Live Nude Girls Unite (Query and Funari, 2000); Out at Work (Anderson and Gold); The Bradfords Tour America (Morgan and Nunn) with "Accidental Insolence" (Anchor) Fri, 7:30 (\$5). "Iconoclast Black Film Festival": • A New Harlem; The Public Housing Scandal; June-teenth: A Time to Remember Sat, 8 (\$5).

ASIAN ART MUSEUM 75 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive, Golden Gate Park; 863-3133. \$7. "Real to Reel: Buddhism and Film"; Caravan (Valli, 1999) Fri, 7:30. Introduced by Gaetano Maida, founder of the Buddhist Film Society.

BRIDGE 3010 Geary; 751-3213. \$7. "Midnight Mass": Pee Wee's Big Adventure (Burton, 1985) Sat, midnight.

CASTRO 429 Castro; 621-6120. \$4.50-7. "San Francisco Jewish Film Festival" Wed-Thurs, see First Runs. Kiss of the Spider Woman

(Babenco, 1985) Fri/27-Thurs/2, 7, 9:30 (also Sat-Sun, Wed, 1:30, 4:15).

'FILM NIGHT IN THE PARK' Creek Park, 400 block of Sir Frances Drake Blvd, San Anselmo; (415) 453-4333. \$2-4. Genghis Blues (Belic, 1999) Fri, 8:30. Il postino (Radford, 1994) Sat, 8:30. Outdoor screening; bring a blanket or chair to sit on.

FINE ARTS CINEMA 2451 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 848-1143. \$4-7. • High Lonesome (Liebling, 1992) Wed, 7:30 and Ralph Stanley Story (Smith, 2000) Wed, 9:20. • The Misfits (Huston, 1960) Thurs/26-Wed/1, 7:30 and Beau travail (Denis, 1999) Thurs/26-Wed/1, 9:50 (also Sun, 5:50).

MISSION CULTURAL CENTER 2868 Mission; 642-8066. \$5. "International Working Class Film and Video Festival," part of LaborFest, the series highlights films and videos about labor movements and workers rights Thurs, 7.

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of LaborFest, the series highlights films and videos about labor movements and workers rights: Not in My Garden (Video 48, 2001) Sun, 2.

NEW COLLEGE CULTURAL CENTER 766 Valencia; www.climinal.as/newcollege/cinema. \$3-5. Who's Counting? Sex, Lies and General Economics (Nash, 1995) Wed, 7:30. Documentary about New Zealand activist Marilyn Waring.

NEW LANGTON ARTS 1246 Folsom; 626-5416. \$6-8. "Humans Discontinued," films and videos that explore the boundaries between the artificial and the natural, with artists including Amy Hicks, Audrey Chung, Dale Hoyt, and others Thurs, 8.

NEW PFA THEATER 2575 Bancroft, Berk; (510) 642-1412. \$4.50-7. "Born to Be Bad": Spider Baby (Hill, 1968) Wed, 7:30. "Amos Gitai": Devarim (1995) Thurs, 7; Yom Yom (1998) Thurs, 9:10; Kippur (2000) Sat, 8:30 (this screening at Wheeler Auditorium on UC Berkeley campus, part of the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival; see First Runs); The Arena of Murder (1996) Tues, 7:30. "Kon Ichikawa": Punishment Room (1956) Fri, 7; Ten Dark Women (1961) Fri, 8:55; Mr. Pu (1953) Sun, 5:30; A Billionaire (1954) Sun, 7:30. "Lang in the U.S.A.": The Big Heat (1953) Sat, 7; Clash by Night (1952) Sat, 8:50. "Family Classics": A Boy Named Charlie Brown (Melendez, 1969) Sun, 3.

PARAMOUNT THEATRE 2025 Broadway, Oak; (510) 465-6400. \$5. The Invisible Man (Whale, 1933) Fri, 8.

RAFAEL FILM CENTER 1118 Fourth St, San Rafael; (415) 454-1222. \$5-8. Himalaya (Valli, 2001) call for times. Sun/29; 3 and 7 shows with "The Making of Himalaya" and lead actress Lhakpa Tsumchoe in person. Memento (Nolan, 2000) call for times. American Cuisine (Pitoun, 1999) Wed-Thurs, call for times. Kiss of the Spider Woman (Babenco, 1985) Fri/27-Thurs/2, call for times. "The Great Nickelodeon Show," films and performances Sat, 3, 7:30 (\$9-12).

RED VIC 1727 Haight; 668-3994. \$3-6.50. Live Nude Girls Unite (Query and Funari, 2000) Wed, 2, 7:30, 9:15. Dark Days (Singer, 2000) Thurs-Sun, 7:15, 9:15 (also Sat-Sun, 2, 4). Cattle 54 (Trueba, 2000) Mon-Tues, 7:15, 9:30.

RODIE 3117 16th St; 863-1087. \$3-7. Zanzibar (Schuster, 1940) Wed, 3:40, 6:40. Angel on the Amazon (Auer, 1948) Wed, 2, 5, 8. Without You I'm Nothing (Boskovich, 1990) Thurs, 7, 9, 11. M*A*S*H (Altman, 1970) Fri-Sat, 7, 9:30 (also Sat, 2, 4:30). The King of Marvin Gardens (Rafelson, 1972) Sun, 3:45. The Swimmer (Perry, 1968) Sun, 2, 5:45, 9:30. Scout's Honor (Shepard, 2000) Mon-Tues, 6, 8, 10.

SAN FRANCISCO MAIN LIBRARY Koret Auditorium, 100 Larkin; 557-4277. Free. "Aliens, Spaceships, Time Travel: Classic Science Fiction Films"; Sleeper (Allen, 1973) Thurs, noon.

21 GRAND 21 Grand, Oak; (510) 444-7263. \$5-10. "An Evening of Experimental Video" Fri, 9. Curated by Michael Mantra.

YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS 701 Mission; 978-ARTS. \$3-6. "Rare Films by John Cassavetes and Abel Ferrara." New Rose Hotel (Ferrara, 1998) Fri, 8, 9:45. "Hip-Hop Docs," different films each day about hip-hop culture, history, and music Tues-Sun, noon, 2:05, 4:15. Through Aug 12. ♦

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 Jack Mathews, Daily News

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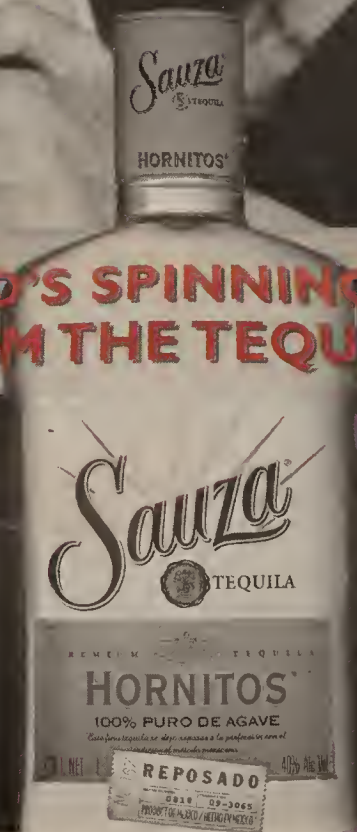
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San Francisco

ALEXANDRIA ♫ P Geary/18th Ave. 752-5100. Call for times. *Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within*, *Jurassic Park 3*, *Kiss of the Dragon*, *Planet of the Apes* (starts Fri).

BALBOA 38th Ave/Balboa. 221-8184. • Big Eden Wed-Thurs, 3:10, 7:20 and Bridget Jones's Diary Wed-Thurs, 1:10, 5:20, 9:30. • *Moulin Rouge* Wed-Thurs, 2:40, 7: Fri-Tues, 3, 7:20 and *Startup.com* Wed-Thurs, 12:40, 5, 9:20; Fri-Tues, 1, 5:20, 9:35. • With a Friend like Harry Fri-Tues, 12:35, 4:45, 8:55 and *Lost and Delirious* Fri-Tues, 2:50, 7.

BRIDGE Geary/Blake. 352-0810. Pee Wee's Big Adventure Sat, midnight. *Made* Fri-Tues, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45. *Sexy Beast* Wed-Thurs, 5, 7:15, 9:35.

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'Made'

Mo' money, mo' problems

At their best, indie goofballs Jon Favreau and Vince Vaughn have the easy rapport of a classic comedy team: Jon's the bullnecked straight man, Vince is the slightly swizzled Lothario; together they have enough charisma to fuel a whole series of movies. Decades from now, when the Castro screens its 12-part Vaughn-Favreau retrospective, *Made* may qualify as a pleasant throwaway, a minor farce sandwiched between *Swingers* and the pair's next collaboration. On its own, however, this tossed-off Mafia movie makes us an offer that's all too easy to refuse. Bobby (Favreau) and Ricky (Vaughn) are a couple of would-be wise guys whose first assignment takes them from L.A. to New York, where their kvetching boss (Peter Falk) orders them to deal with a local hood (Sean Combs — yes, *that* Sean Combs). Wackiness ensues, thanks mostly to Ricky's utter lack of an internal censor, but this neo-lounge homage to *Goodfellas* lacks the edge and sense of menace that might have made the jokes sting instead of fizzle. It's always risky to base a whole movie on nothing but chemistry: the vibe varies from moment to moment, and when Vaughn's obnoxious charm wears thin, we're left with little more than a vanity project with director Favreau's unsteady hand at the helm. But even while saddled with black eyes, bruised noses, and an embarrassing subplot about Favreau's no-good girlfriend (Famke Janssen), the two still manage to work some occasional magic. It's just enough to remind us of what we're missing and sufficient reason to look forward to their next project. (Alec Nevala-Lee)



Tired: Mob movie *Made* leans a little too heavily on the comic rapport shared by Vince Vaughn (pictured) and director Jon Favreau.

Sweethearts 12:20, 2:45, 5:15, 7:35, 10:15. *Cats and Dogs* 11:50a, 1:50, 3:50, 5:55, 8:05, 10:05. *Dr. Dolittle 2* 11:30a, 1:45, 3:55, 6:15, 8:30, 10:35. *Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within* 12:05, 2:35, 5, 7:25, 9:50. *Jurassic Park 3* noon, 2:20, 4:40, 7, 9:25. *Kiss of the Dragon* 12:10, 2:30, 5:05, 7:20, 9:40. *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider* 11:55a, 2:15, 4:35, 7:15, 9:35. *Scary Movie 2* 11:35a, 1:35, 3:40, 5:45, 7:50, 10. *The Score* 11:40a, 2:25, 5:10, 7:55, 10:30. *Shrek* 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20.

CINEMA 21 ♫ Chestnut/Steiner. 921-6720. A.I. Wed-Thurs, 12:50, 3:55, 7, 10. *Moulin Rouge* Fri-Tues, 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:50.

CLAY ♫ Fillmore/Clay. 352-0810. *The Closet* 4:45, 7, 9:15 (also Wed-Sun, 2:40; Fri-Sun, 12:30).

COLMA (METRO CENTER) ♫ P 280 Metro Center, Colma. (650) 994-2503. Call for times. A.I., *Baby Boy*, *The Fast and the Furious*, *Legally Blonde*, *Planet of the Apes* (starts Fri), *Sexy Beast*.

CDRONET & ♫ P Geary/Arguello. 752-4400. Call for times. *Planet of the Apes* (starts Fri), *Scary Movie 2*.

EMBARCADERO CENTER CINEMA & ♫ P 1 Embarcadero Center, Promenade level. 352-0810. *The Anniversary Party* 1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50. *Brother* Fri-Tues, noon, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10. *Everybody's Famous!* Wed-Thurs, 12:10, 4:10, 7:20, 9:40. *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* Wed-Thurs, noon, 12:30, 2:20, 2:40, 4:40, 5, 7, 7:30, 10, 10:20; Fri-Tues, 12:20, 1, 2:40, 3:15, 6, 7:20, 8:30, 10:10. *Memento* Wed-Thurs, 1, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10. *Sexy Beast* Fri-Tues, 12:10, 2:15, 4:40, 7, 9:40.

EMPIRE ♫ P West Portal/Vicente. 661-2539. *America's Sweethearts* 11:45a, 2:30, 5:15, 7:50, 10:15. *Jurassic Park 3* 11:30a, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45. *The Score* 11:15a, 2, 5, 7:45, 10:20.

FOUR STAR Clement/23rd Ave. 666-3488. *Himalaya* Wed-Thurs, 6; Fri-Tues, 1:55, 6. *The Man Is Dangerous* Thurs, 1:55, 3:55, 9:45. *New Legend of Shaolin* Thurs, noon, 3:55, 7:50. *The Road Home* Wed, 2:05, 6; Fri-Tues, 12:15, 4. *Songcatcher* Wed, noon, 3:55, 7:50; Thurs, 4:05; Fri-Tues, 2:05, 6, 8. *Under the Sand* Wed-Thurs, 12:30, 2:20, 8; Fri-Tues, noon, 4, 8:05.

GALAXY & ♫ Sutter/Van Ness. 474-8700. Call for times. *Baby Boy*, *Bridget Jones's Diary*, *Kiss of the Dragon*, *Pearl Harbor*, *The Score*.

KABUKI B & ♫ P Post/Fillmore. 931-9800. Call for times. *America's Sweethearts*, *Cats and Dogs*, *Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within*, *Jurassic Park 3*, *Kiss of the Dragon*, *Legally Blonde*, *The Score*, *Shrek*.

LUMIERE & ♫ P California/Polk. 352-0810. *Bully* Wed-Thurs, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45; Fri-Tues, 5, 7:20, 9:45 (also Fri-Sun, 12:15, 2:40). *Jin-Roh* Fri-Tues, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55 (also Fri-Sun, 12:20, 2:50). *Memento* Fri-Tues, 4:55, 7:25, 9:50 (also Fri-Sun, noon, 2:30). *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* Wed-Thurs, 5:15, 7:35, 9:40. *Vertical Ray of the Sun* Wed-Thurs, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40.

METREON & Fourth St/Mission. 369-6200. Call for times. A.I., *America's Sweethearts*, *Baby Boy*, *Cats and Dogs*, *crazy/beautiful*, *Dolphins* (Imax), *Dr. Dolittle 2*, *Extreme* (Imax), *The Fast and the Furious*, *Final Fantasy: The Spirits*

Within, *Jurassic Park 3*, *Kiss of the Dragon*, *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider*, *Legally Blonde*, *Scary Movie 2*, *The Score*, *Shrek*, *Swordfish*.

METRO Union/Webster. 931-1685. Call for times. *The Score*.

1000 VAN NESS & ♫ P 1000 Van Ness. 931-9800. Call for times. A.I., *America's Sweethearts*, *Atlantis*, *Cats and Dogs*, *crazy/beautiful*, *The Fast and the Furious*, *Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within*, *Jurassic Park 3*, *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider*, *Legally Blonde*, *Moulin Rouge*, *Scary Movie 2*, *Shrek*.

OPERA PLAZA & ♫ Van Ness/Golden Gate. 352-0810. *Everybody's Famous!* Fri-Tues, 4:20, 9:40. *Lost and Delirious* Wed-Thurs, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:40. *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* Fri-Tues, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:50. *The Princess and the Warrior* Wed-Thurs, 1:30, 4:30, 8. *Startup.com* Wed-Thurs, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30; Fri-Tues, 1:20, 7:20. *Vertical Rays of the Sun* Fri-Tues, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35. *With a Friend like Harry* 1, 4, 7, 9:35 (Fri-Tues, 9:30 show replaces 9:35 show).

PRESIDIO ♫ Chestnut/Scott. 922-1318. *Jurassic Park 3* Wed-Thurs, 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8, 10:20; Fri-Tues, 12:30, 2:45, 5, 7:15, 9:30.

STONETOWN & ♫ P 19th Ave/Winston. 221-8182. Call for times. *Legally Blonde*, *Kiss of the Dragon*.

VOGUE ♫ Sacramento/Presidio. 221-8183. Call for times. *America's Sweethearts*.

Oakland

GRAND LAKE & ♫ P 3200 Grand, Oakl. 452-3556. A.I. Wed-Thurs, noon, 3, 6, 9; Fri-Tues, 9:20. *America's Sweethearts* 1, 4, 7, 9:30 (Fri-Tues, 6:45 and 9:15 shows replace 7 and 9:30 shows). *Jurassic Park III* 11:45a, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 (Fri-Tues, 9:30 show replaces 9:45 show). *Planet of the Apes* (starts Fri) 12:30, 3:45, 7, 9:45. *Shrek* Wed-Thurs, 12:15, 2, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15, 10; Fri-Tues, 11:40a, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30.

JACK LONDON CINEMA 100 Washington, Jack London Square, Oakl. 433-1320. A.I. Wed-Thurs, 10:10. *America's Sweethearts* 11:40a, 2:20, 5, 7:35, 10:15. *Baby Boy* Wed-Thurs, 1, 4, 7:15, 10:30; Fri-Tues, 10:45. *Cats and Dogs* 11:05a, 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8 (Sat, no 8 show). *Dr. Dolittle 2* Wed-Thurs, 11:25a, 1:45, 4:20, 7:20, 9:40. *Jurassic Park 3* Wed-Thurs, 11:15a, 1:40, 4:15, 7, 9:30; Fri-Tues, 11:10a, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:35 (also Fri-Sat, 12:05a). *Kiss of the Dragon* 11:30a, 2:15, 5:05, 7:30, 10 (Fri-Tues, 7:40 show replaces 7:30 show). *Legally Blonde* 11:20a, 2, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45 (Fri-Tues, 4:35 show replaces 4:30 show). *Planet of the Apes* (starts Fri) 10:45a, 11:15a, 1:30, 2, 4:15, 4:45, 7, 7:30, 9:50, 10:20 (also Fri-Sat, midnight). *Princess Diary* (sneak preview) Sat, 8pm. *Scary Movie 2* 11a, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:50, 10:05. *The Score* 11a, 1:50, 4:45, 7:45, 10:40 (Fri-Tues, 4:50 show replaces 4:45 show).

PARKWAY 1834 Park, Oakl. 814-2400. *Deliverance* Thurs, 6:30, 9:15. *Memento* Wed, Fri, Mon, 6:30, 9:15; Sat-Sun, 6, 9. *Moscow Does Not Believe in Tears* Thurs, 6:15, 9:15. *Moulin Rouge* Fri-Tues, 7. *The Party Crashers* Fri-Tues, 9:45. *Rocky Horror Picture Show* Sat, midnight. *The 7 Minute Wall* Sat, 2:30. *Startup.com* Wed-Thurs, 7, 9:45.

PIEDMONT ♫ Piedmont/41st St, Oakl. 843-3456. *The Anniversary Party* 4:20, 7, 9:30 (also Fri-Sun, 1:30). *The Closet* Fri-Tues, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10 (also Fri-Sun, 1:10, 3:10). *Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within* Wed-Thurs, 2:45, 5, 7:15, 9:45. *Sexy Beast* 5:15, 7:30, 9:40 (also Wed-Sun, 3; Fri-Sun, 1).

Berkeley area

ACT I AND II ♫ P Center/Shattuck, Berk. 843-3456. *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* 7:15, 9:45 (also Sat-Sun, 1:45, 4:30). *Sexy Beast* 7, 9:30 (also Fri-Sun, 1:30, 4:15).

ALBANY & ♫ 1115 Solano, Albany. 843-3456. *The Anniversary Party* 6:45, 9 (also Sat-Sun, 1:45, 4:15). *The Closet* 6:30, 8:50 (also Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4).

CALIFORNIA ♫ P Kirtledge/Shattuck, Berk. 843-3456. A.I. 5, 8:15 (also Fri-Sun, 1:45). *Made* Fri-Tues, 3:20, 5:25, 7:40, 10 (also Fri-Sun, 1:15). *The Princess and the Warrior* Wed-Thurs, 4, 6:45, 9:30. *With a Friend like Harry* 4:15, 7, 9:40 (also Fri-Sun, 1:30).

ELMWOOD 2966 College, Berk. 649-0530. *Amores perros* 4:05, 9. *Big Eden* 4:30, 7:05. *Bully* Fri-Tues, 4:45, 9:25. *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* Wed-Thurs, 4:45, 9:25. *Himalaya* 2:10, 7. *Startup.com* 2:20, 9:30. *Under the Sand* 2:45, 7:20.

EMERY BAY & ♫ P 6330 Christie, Emeryville. 420-0107. Call for times. A.I., *America's Sweethearts*, *Baby Boy*, *Cats and Dogs*, *Dr. Dolittle 2*, *Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within*, *Jurassic Park 3*, *Kiss of the Dragon*, *Legally Blonde*, *Planet of the Apes* (starts Fri), *Scary Movie 2*, *The Score*.

OAKS & ♫ P 1875 Solano, Berk. 526-1836. *Bridget Jones's Diary* Wed-Thurs, 12:45, 5:15, 7:15; Fri-Tues, 1:15, 3:15, 7:15. *Cats and Dogs* 1, 3, 5, 7 (also Wed-Thurs, 9). *Lost and Delirious* Wed-Thurs, 2:45, 9:15; Fri-Tues, 9. *Scary Movie 2* Fri-Tues, 5:15, 9:15.

DRINDA & ♫ 4 Orinda Theater Square, Orinda. 254-9060. A.I. Wed-Thurs, 7:45. *America's Sweethearts* Wed-Thurs, 12:45, 3:45, 7, 9:30; Fri-Tues, noon, 2:20, 4:40, 7:15, 9:30. *Atlantis* Wed-Thurs, 12:30, 2:30. *Moulin Rouge* Wed-Thurs, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45; Fri-Tues, 6:45, 9:15. *Planet of the Apes* (starts Fri) 12:30, 3:45, 7, 9:45. *Shrek* Wed-Thurs, noon, 2, 4, 6; Fri-Tues, 1, 3, 5.

SHATTUCK CINEMAS & ♫ 2230 Shattuck, Berk. 843-3456. *America's Sweethearts* 1, 2, 3:20, 4:20, 5:40, 6:55, 8, 9:20. *Atlantis* 1:20, 3:45, 6, 8:15 (Tues, no 1:20 and 8:15 shows). *Brother* Fri-Tues, 1:50, 4:35, 7:25, 9:50. *Bully* Wed-Thurs, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10. *crazy/beautiful* Wed-Thurs, 12:50, 3, 5:10, 7:20, 9:50. *Jin-Roh* Fri-Tues, 2:20, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40. *Lost and Delirious* Wed-Thurs, 2, 4:20, 7:05, 9:55. *Memento* Wed-Thurs, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15; Fri-Tues, 2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40. *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* 2:05, 4:30, 6:40, 9. *The Score* 1:30, 4:10, 7, 9:45. *Songcatcher* 2:15, 4:50, 7:15, 9:35. *Swordfish* Tues, 1:20, 8:15. *Vertical Ray of the Sun* Wed-Thurs, 2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40; Fri-Tues, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15.

UA BERKELEY ♫ 2274 Shattuck, Berk. 843-1487. Call for times. *Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within*, *Jurassic Park 3*, *Kiss of the Dragon*, *Legally Blonde*, *Moulin Rouge*, *Planet of the Apes* (starts Fri), *Scary Movie 2*, *Shrek*.

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This is Amy. I'm 36 yrs. old. I've been divorced for about 5 years. I have no children of my own. I'm very career-oriented. I've been in my field for over 13 years & love what I do. I'm looking for a man who's strong but sensitive, caring & kind. Someone who's mentally, emotionally & financially secure. I'd like someone who's sports-minded. I'm a definite sports enthusiast. I'm Danish & Italian. I'm 5'3" & weigh about 130 lbs. I'm considered to be attractive. I'm a classy lady. I have lots of great family & friends. **Box 3818.**

My name's Becky. I'm interested in meeting someone who enjoys at least three quarters of the things I like to do. I like to bike. I like music, especially live music. I like dancing. I also do a lot of traveling. I'm also interested in someone who's very spontaneous. I'm very active & would like to meet someone who's as active as I am. I don't sit at home very often. I really like being outdoors, expressing myself, being able to laugh & enjoy life as it is. **Box 3578.**

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

I'm 5'10" & weigh 165 lbs. I'm very handsome. I have hazel-green eyes which are my best features. I'm here for you. I'm safe. I'm easy to be with. You can let loose with me. When you meet me, you'll want to let loose. Leave me a message. Let's get together. It's Steve. I'm looking forward to hearing from you. **Box 4466.**

I'm a single, white male located in San Francisco. I'm looking for a woman who's a queen & who wants to be treated like a queen. Someone who wants to be pampered, spoiled & literally waited on hand & foot while she just sits back like queen. Let me know if that interests you. **Box 4152.**

My name's Daniel. I'm 47 yrs. old. I'm 5'7" & weigh 158 lbs. I have brown hair & hazel eyes. I have a mustache & a goatee. I'm very well-groomed. I'm fun to be with. I have many interests. I'm looking for a slim, attractive female who's career-oriented, fun to be with & who's sincerely looking to meet someone. **Box 3803.**

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EBONY SEEKS IVORY

Very attractive, passionate, affectionate BPF, home owner, seeks progressive, sophisticated, classy WM, 42-54, S10+, for romance, monogamy and more. **1701**

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BF, S'2", 145lbs, 44DD0, 29-38, beautiful chocolate skinned female, seeks financially generous, sexy, older male, any race, for massage and tasty pleasures. What's your fantasy? **9665**

HAPPILY IMPECFECT

Fun, responsible, spiritual, creative, easygoing, neurotic, intelligent, attractive, plus-sized SWF, 38, seeks fun-loving geek. **3319**

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL...

Are you?, Attractive, 41-year-old SW/HF, S'7", in good shape, long auburn hair, honest, affectionate, responsible, with a good heart, seeks LTR, with a man of substance, with the same qualities, to share life together... **8145**

DALE EVANS SEEKS ROY ROGERS

Cute SJF, SO, low maintenance, no baggage, enjoys flea markets, board games, cards, movies, dining out, weekend happenings in the city, parks. Seeking honest SWM, 50-65, N/S, N/O, nature/peet lover. **5475**

JEWISH CNER TYPE

SO, seeks financially secure, tall SWM, 50-60, non-smoker, non-drinker, sense of humor, desires honesty, likes garage sales, scrabble, pool, dining out, theater. Must love dogs. **5487**

BEAUTIFUL INSIDE AND OUT

SJF, 38, physician, with intelligent wise mind, curvy body, soulful blue eyes. Seeking tall, playful, responsible, honest mensch, with a heart of gold, for love, commitment and family. I enjoy meditation, hiking, reading, theater, music, conversations, intimacy. **1391**

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Pretty, petite SWF, 45, youthful, fun-loving. Seeks LTR with employed SWM, N/S, 46+. Must have full head of hair or sense of humor. Common interests: Jazz, blues, classic film, theater, fine art, cooking, travel, and anything French. **1428**

FUNNY CUY?

Big, beautiful, active, attractive SWF, 31, seeks active, fun, reasonably good-looking guy for relationship. Please be open-minded. **3276**

NEVER MARRIED

SF, 39, black hair, loves reading good books, watching good movies. Seeking nice, wonderful, trustworthy male with sense of humor. **3278**

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Petite, snuggly, passionate mid-life female, peace-nick, loves music, (guitar, writing), yoga, biking, laughter. Seeking kind, communicative, sensual, spiritual man, N/S, for slow dance toward LTR. **3266**

LIVE MUSIC, BOOKS, & BEACH

Those are just some of my favorite things. SF, 26, California native, seeks fun, down-to-earth SM, 25-30ish, to share good times, good discussions, good food. Believe in something. **3256**

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BF, 20, S'3", 44F 28-37, enjoys candlelit romantic evenings, followed with strawberries and whipped cream. Seeking B/WPM, 28-40, for possible LTR. **1660**

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Brown-eyed redhead, foreign-born with German and Asian features. Likes swanky lounge music, wears coats to Goth clubs. Seeking shy man, unique dresser a plus. **3215**

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Vivacious creative writer/author, with beautiful eyes and high ideals, seeks LTR with man, 45-54. My interests include art, film, progressive politics, literature and law. I'm also a health care activist. **8269**

PISCES SEEKS CANCER

BF, 40, wants to meet thin, fit SM, 30-40, who loves jazz. Serious inquiries only. **3196**

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Full-figured, attractive, athletic SWPF, 30, S'10", brown/green, olive skin, loves sports, working out, animals, traveling, romance. Seeking easygoing SM with similar qualities, for relationship. **3202**

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Complex, attractive, intelligent SF, 28, slender, brunette, enjoys animals, adventure, and city life. Seeking tall, outgoing, very smart, big-hearted male who loves kids. **3160**

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Petite, perky SWIFT seeking a nice, handsome man. I'm into music, metaphysics, big smiles, and spiritual values. Let's share 2001 together. **1255**

SLEEPLESS IN FRESNO

Woman, 37, N/S, enjoys beaches, music, movies, plays, and coffee houses. Seeking a male, 25-40, for friendship. **3132**

WILL YOU BE MINE?

Open-minded, intelligent, thoughtful, playful WF, 36, enjoys learning to play piano, hiking, '70s disco music, and camping. Seeking a man, 31-45, with similar interests. **3141**

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Artistic, attractive, SJF, 60's, S'S", 118lbs, health conscious, enjoys tap dancing, working out, jazz. Seeking healthy, uncumbered SBM, 58-70, with similar interests. **3143**

LOOKING FOR YOU

Sincere, caring DAF, 30+, S'S", fit, enjoys reading, hiking, travel, dining out, movies, theatre, music. Seeking honest, family oriented S/DWPM, 40-50, S'10+", **3145**

SEEKS NICE MALE

Nice-looking SF, 33, N/S, N/O, enjoys restaurants, skating, bike riding, horseback riding, swimming. Seeking similar man. **3149**

EAT ME ALIVE

Serve me. Black, big, beautiful woman, college student, big ass Goddess wants submissive, generous, hungry W/AM, 21-75. To body massage me, and oral service. **9949**

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SEEK QUALITY RELATIONSHIP

SWPF, fun-loving well-read, witty, seeks SWPM, 36-46, good communication, open-minded, not PC. Enjoys dancing, outdoors, politics. Seeking partner to share life's adventures. **3124**

PARTY OGGS ONLY

Fun, outgoing, laid-back, slim, busty SWF, late 30s, accustomed to being spoiled by SWM party dogs with similar interests, open-minded, non-judgmental, responsible like me (part time job M-Th), smokers, drinkers, partiers, welcome to plan a wild weekend... **3114**

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No baggage, vices, STDs. Pretty, fit, fun, humorous, happy, sane, athletic, traveled, adventurous, balanced, successful businesswoman seeks similar medium-tall SWM, 38-50, for open-minded LTR. **1654**

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Tall, attractive woman, mid-50s, seeks 180 degree relationship with charming, educated, attractive SBM, 48-60, H/W proportionate. Please be alive, creative, highly sexual, for possible LTR. **1464**

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SWF, 41, S'6", brown/blue, tall and slender, likes movies, shopping, dining out, fitness. Seeking humorous, easygoing, fun-loving SM for friendship first. **3045**

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Creative, attractive, tall, fit, funny SJF seeks similar adjectives in non-smoking SM, 30-50. Bonus for screwball comedy, jazz, basketball fans. **3065**

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Female, 39, educated, sincere, passionate, and no children, seeks WPM, 50-60, N/S, successful, loving, caring, and faithful, for LTR/possible marriage. **7797**

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Cute, curvy, witty, Asian-American girl, 31, seeks wealthy, generous, tall, attractive guy who likes dancing, movies, shopping, romantic dinners. **3066**

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Honest, professional, educated, European woman, 26, seeks American Citizen. Let's talk! **3056**

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Very attractive, classy, feminine, honest, educated, European lady, 25, speaks 4 languages. Seeking generous, respectable, tall, handsome, professional gentleman, 30-45, who likes to spoil women. **3057**

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SMART FEMALE

SF, 23, 5'5", 140lbs, brown/brown, mother of one, loves movies, dining, boating. Seeking SM with sense of humor, race unimportant, for relationship. **3038**

CUTE ASIAN

SAPF, 33, 104lbs, seeks SWPM, 49-57, to share real oceans and rolling back outs. Leave me some information about you! **9456**

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Financially secure, emotionally intelligent, physically attractive, sweet natured, slender, professional female, mature and affectionate, loves travel, film, music, books, dance, exploring new ideas, and cultural events. Looking for a loving man with similar interests for friend, partner, and lover. **1580**

IT'S ALL FOR YOU

Warm, petite, funny, pretty, physically active, secure SBF, no kids, N/S, social drinker, N/drugs, seeks male with similar social habits. **1957**

ASIAN MERMAID SEEKS AQUAMAN

Sensual mermaid, 53, looks 43, feels 30s, 105lbs, cute, world traveled, professional, master's degree, seeks SWM, 48-58, swinging companion, for friendship, monogamy, marriage by the ocean? Let's hang out this weekend. **1003**

BEAUTIFUL & CONFIDENT

Coke-bottle curvaceous, intelligent, serious, funny, sweet, strong, Christian SBPF, 31, S'6", size 14, no kids, never been married, seeks friendship/possible LTR. **1954**

EMPNASIS-PASSION

Pretty, petite, educated, athletic, slender SJF, 44, brunette, beautiful eyes/legs, seeks emotional, intellectual/physical intimacy, with well-educated, athletic SWM, 40s, loves nature/art, committed romance, family. **8321**

LOOKING FOR ONE NONEST MAN

Voluptuous female, 33, long auburn hair, seeks articulate, employed SM, 25-45, who likes dancing, reading, swimming, movies, walks on beaches. Possible LTR. **1949**

IMPRESSIVE BEAUTY

Pretty, petite, slender, muscular, fair, feminine, complexly educated, artistic SJF, 44, long hair, desires deeply thoughtful, good-looking, highly educated, sensual, athletic SWM, 42-50, who is open to commitment, family, pleasures of mind and body, exploration of nature, arts, travel. **8317**

SEXY, SPIRITUAL, SLENDER

Warm, bright, attractive, spirited woman with sparkle, seeks caring, zestful, steady, healthy, growth-oriented man with laughter, 45-65ish, to share life's joy and wonder. Likes nature, hiking, dancing, music, adventure, quiet times, massage, hugs. Let's live life fully! **1912**

SEEKING DEPTN

Pretty, adventurous DWPF loves laughter, books, healthy cooking, nature. Seeking tall, attractive, long-haired, honest, spiritual, emotionally available SWM, 38-48, for friendship first. **1891**

SEEKING

SAF, 42, seeks classical musician who loves Chopin for possible committed, long term relationship. **1875**

REJUVENATING AND SPONTANEOUS

Are you looking for that intelligent, young lady that you could spend some wonderful quality time with, and enjoys some nice romantic times? I'm 5'5", 120lbs, very playful and looking for professional, mature man who can appreciate and open-minded woman. **1846**

NEW TO THE AREA

Attractive, red-headed medical student, 27, visiting for the summer, seeks intelligent, funny, compassionate man to see the city with: clubs, restaurants, hikes. Just show me! **1849**

REDNEAK

Creative, bright, witty SJF 38, with beautiful curls, enjoys art, reading, films, travel. Seeking warm, intelligent, happy SJM, 38+, for garage sales, dining, films, more. **1813**

LOOKING FOR YOU

Seeking SWM, 30-40, employed, goatee, with Harley. College education, flower garden, cats a plus. Enjoys literature, music, cooking, baseball. S/D/Daly City/Pacific only. No criminal record! **1825**

FRIEND, LOVER, PARTNER

Attractive, easygoing, relaxed WF, 41, no children, occasional smoker, seeks man, 50-60, with intelligence, character, and passion for life. **1788**

FULL-FIGURED PARTY GIRL

Cute, hard-working college student, social butterfly, 20, loves to party, shopping, museums, and coffee houses. Seeking secure, mature man, 20-26. **1789**

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE

SM, 33, S'10", 215lbs, seeks down-to-earth, fun-loving woman with a wild side, for friendship first. **1786**

LONG LEGS, COLO HANDS, WARM.

heart SWF, 35+, mad scientist by day, loves live music (jazz, metal, classical), film, the arts in general, and healthy lifestyle. Seeking SM, late-20s to early-50s, with similar interests. **1800**

STRIP TEASE

Beautiful Brazilian woman, long hair, green eyes, beautiful body, seeks male for private strip tease only. **1750**

FRIENDS TO BEGIN

Beautiful SBF with nice shape and creative mind seeks handsome SM, 35-48, for summer fun, concerts, travel, sports. **1768**

SEEKING GENEROUS GENTLEMAN

Sexy, petite, honest, independent, educated, classy, fun brunette, 26, new to the city, seeks generous, respectable, tall, fit, handsome, professional gentleman who can appreciate casual dating, fine dining, good conversation. **1749**

AVERAGE NOT CHICK

SF, 33, just turned single, seeks tall, skinny, pale, muscle-less artist type with sense of humor to discover new bars and cafes. **7119**

LDVE IS WHAT I WANT

SWF, 18, S'7", 140lbs, wants a new life. Seeking honest, open-minded, kind hearted SWM, 18-29, for friendship, possible LTR. **1209**

WHERE IS MY BEST FRIEND?

Seeking reasonable, feminist friendly dude. SWF, 38, S'2", 125lbs, cute, tranquil engineer, likes nightclubs, dancing, hiking, television, movies. **1705**

RUBENESQUE BABE

Adventurous, smart, creative, mildly insane, under the weather, DWPF, 30s, seeks stable dude, professional male, 27-40, into rock 'n' roll, art, pop culture, cooking, kinky sex, outdoor fun, for friendship, possible LTR. **1707**

CLASSICAL MUSICIAN...

seeks kindred soul for chamber music, friendship, and possibly more. **1196**

ROSE ON MY PILLOW...

cuddled in bed, brisk walks, conversations. Fun, spirit not dead. Spirited 49-year-old redhead seeking her shining star. **1651**

SINGLE AND SEXY

Curious, independent, open-minded, pretty Latin SF, 27, S'6", 125lbs, in great shape seeks intelligent, cute, sweet, laid-back fit SWM, 30-38. **1647**

ATTRACTIVE, INTELLIGENT...

witty, scintillating WF, 48, S'4", slim, redhead, enjoys music, dancing, and traveling. Seeking handsome, thoughtful, intelligent man with similar interests. **1622**

SAN JOSE TO MONTEREY

S/12 on business? Thank you for returning me safely...I apologize for seeming uninterested. We will always have the Mucky Duck! **1621**

CREATIVE, EXUBERANT GAL

Intelligent OWF, 29, S'4", red/green, seeks similar S/O/WJM, 30-40, for friendship, possibly more. **1559**

LOOKING FOR YOU

Slim, educated, attractive SWPF, blonde/blue, N/S, N/Drugs, seeks financially/emotionally secure SWPM, 55-65, N/S, N/Drugs, for a friendship first, possible LTR. **1564**

MUSIC & DANCE

Tall, medium built, fair-complected single mom, 43, dark wavy/hazel, enjoys live music, singing, biking, street fairs. Seeking honest, open, social, communicative, fun-loving man. **1575**

ALONE MUCH TOO OFTEN?

Ladies 30-55. Looking for friendly movie-goers, playgoers, who enjoy all types of music, occasional out-door walks, bike rides, and welcome hearty conversations. brunch on saturday ok? for more information call. **1566**

ALL HAIL THE QUEEN

Regal, voluptuous, witty, statuesque, bright, sensual, erotic, spiritual, adventurous, Nubian beauty. Seeking royal counterpart: 35+, 6'+, muscular, dark, handsome, honest, sexy, emotionally/financially stable, loving, goal-oriented. **1529**

SMART, SEXY, SINGLE

WF, 41, blond with big blue eyes, no pretentious, pseudo-intellectuals please. No drugs. Smoke? Absolutely. **1525**

SEEKING IN MARIN

Nice, quiet, a little shy SBF, S'7", N/D, N/drugs, N/S, enjoys romantic movies, easy listening music, autobiographies, no plans for kids. Seeking a trustworthy, caring, honest, special friend, 34-50, in Marin County. No drugs, no heavy alcohol. **1512**

GOLF PARTNER WANTED

SWPF, S', 120lbs, seeks honest, loving, attractive SM, age unimportant, for golfing, dating, friendship first, possible LTR. **1449**

NEW TO THE AREA!!

Tall, thin SWF, 24, black hair, tattoos, enjoys indie, punk rock, shows, movies. Seeking SM, 23-30, for possible LTR. Someone lead me to the rock-n-roll! **1455**

WOMAN NEEDS A MAN

Seeking attention from Oriental man who is liberal, passionate, humble, loving, kind, caring and sincere at heart. Age is not a concern. **1473**

DESIRABLE

Affectionate, widowed WF, senior, good sense of humor, likes country music, cards, dining, traveling, sports. Seeking honest, truthful, sincere gentleman for relationship. **1438**

BROWN EYES, BROWN LECS

Tan Catholic, 24, seeks athletic, attractive, educated, racially sensitive, intelligent, religious Democrat, 24-30, N/S, for intellectual discussion, outdoors. Race open. **1424**

HOT LATIN BABE

Young Latin girl, 19, seeks nice, adventurous, open-minded, financially secure gentleman with a youthful spirit, who would like to pamper and spoil me. **1414**

CDT A SEXY SMILE?

Big, beautiful, ebony lady, 27, interested in meeting sexy, fun guy, race unimportant. Sense of humor is a must. **1409**

EURO-LATIN LADY...

blonde hair, average height and weight, looking for a

Sez you

Dear Andrea:

My reaction to sexual pleasure is very similar to the woman who reacts by giggling, so her boyfriend can't continue. The main difference for me is that touching causes my body to continue to move or wiggle for up to 20 minutes in addition to causing ticklishness.

Your suggestion of saving her orgasm for the grand finale has worked for me and my partners as well. I would only add that while I have "felt" sated, my body won't calm down until I literally give it a pacifier to grip. More plainly, I've found that inserting a very comfy dildo, and leaving it in place, shortens or dampens the postorgasmic sensitivity enough so that those of us who have to sleep (self included) or take up other activities can actually do so. Room temp (not cold) whole cukes inserted or cool damp towels draped on the body have a calming effect too.

Can't say that I've been able to outgrow this yet, as it seems like some sort of heightened physiological state like extreme fear or joy for which the only remedies are comfort and time. I found that any kind of touching, including light spanking or even cold showers seems to enhance the sensitivity rather than decrease it. Hope that helps.

Love,
Wiggly

Dear Wiggler:

It does. I'm fascinated. I said at the time that such extreme postorgasmic sensitivity is rare enough that the only thing I could find in my little bag of tricks was, "Don't come 'til you're ready to give up all skin contact for the night." Frankly, I thought my own advice was kind of lame, but it was the best I could do. Your wet-towel-and-"pacifier" solution is faintly nutty, but it's ingenious, and — most important — it works. So, ticklish gigglers, if you're out there, what she said. If it works for you, too, thank Wiggly, not me.

Love,
Andrea

Dear Andrea:

The idea that large women can't get laid (asc no. 210) is a fallacy. Personally, they are the only women I have ever dated. The ones that I have dated (and eventually married) are usually just as fun to be around as any other woman. I told myself that if I liked someone, I wouldn't worry too much about how they looked, how much they weighed, or anything that struck me as simply shallow. I met my wife in a chat room, traveled to meet her, and we were married after eight months of phone calls, several visits, and endless hours on the phone. I liked her attitude in the chat room, so I started talking to her and getting to know her. I didn't know what she looked like for at least three months, and I like to think I fell in love with her mind and personality first and her body second. I found out she was a "full figured" and very sexy woman. We've been married for about 4.5 years now. I find that ...

Love,
F.A.

Dear F:

I cut you off in the middle there because, for the purposes of this column, your exact circumstances are beside the point. And I said that fat chicks get laid all the time in the column in question. It isn't just that some potential partners can be convinced not to mind. There are tons of people (pun intended, I guess) who dig bigger bodies, and most men, if you ask them, will eagerly declare a preference for at least some meat with their bones. Many of those beleaguered husbands and boyfriends who grimace in fear while dutifully reciting, "No, honey, those pants don't make your ass look fat," are lying, but it's OK with them. They secretly like fat asses. It's mostly women who insist that the high, elegant cheekbones and narrow hips of your typical junkie is the only body type worth having.

Most lonely people — of any size — would have far greater social success if they'd simply stop hating everyone, although I admit that the temptation can be powerful. I likewise admit that a change of attitude and a sunny smile will hardly work for everyone. The gods do not always play fair, and some people are just hosed.

Love,
Andrea ❖

A new, full-length, alt.sex.column appears at noon each Friday at www.sfbg.com. You can reach Andrea at alt.sex.column, Bay Guardian, 520 Hampshire St., S.F., CA 94110; andrea@altsexcolumn.com; or www.sfbg.com/asc.

men seeking women

MAN SEEKS SOUL MATE
Handsome, open-minded, hilarious WM, 40, loves to have tons of fun, laugh and enjoy the ride of life, being active. Seeking gorgeous companion, 27-37, N/S. **3340**

ATHLETIC GUY
Handsome HM, 51, 6', 190lbs, N/S, enjoys sports, outdoors, working out, concerts, music. Seeking attractive, romantic honest SF, 40-55, N/S. No games. **3353**

JAPANESE FEMALE
Sensitive, honest SWM, 50, seeks Japanese female, 36-50, for film, theatre, ocean walks, friendship leading to LTR. **3341**

AT LARGE IN MARIN
Very health-oriented WM, 37, 5'11", athletic build, N/S, N/Drugs, no children, enjoys hiking, cinema, and sporty cars. Seeking fit female, 25-39, with similar interests. **3322**

TALL OAK & HANDSOME
Down-to-earth, spontaneous, family-oriented understanding HCM, 32, 6'3", 180lbs, dark/hazel, gym teacher, seeks attractive, honest, mature lady, 25-30, for serious relationship. **3328**

ARTISTIC TYPE
Attractive, intuitive, slightly off-beat SWM, young 53, seeks attractive, bright, creative SF whose grace and kindness will be appreciated. **3332**

I COULD BE THE ONE
Attractive GAM, 41, seeks romantic, stable, kind GW/HM, 35-45 who enjoys travel, foreign films, laughter. You have nothing to lose and a possible mate to gain! **3316**

OLD SOUL, YOUNG HEART
Slim, intellectual, intuitive, spiritual SWPM enjoys literature, music, films, food and wine. Seeking smart slim SWF, 40s. **3333**

TOTAL FRENCH MASSAGE
Mature WM gives total French body massages to full-figured, mature woman for her release and pleasure. **8953**

TIRED OF NEURACHE
Honest, sincere, good-looking SWM, 45, 6'2", long dark blond/blue, muscular build, builds muscle cars, dj, builds custom furniture, seeks SF for best friends, maybe more. **3317**

CAN BEAUTY BE AGELESS?
Are you 40-55, happy with your age, have physical and inner beauty, great senses of humor and intelligence? I'm WM, 45, let's talk. **3313**

PERSONAL TRAINER
SBM, 6'1", seeks S/DF, 28-50, any race, with a sense of humor, for having fun, keeping fit, possible LTR. **3311**

TO KNOW ME IS TO LOVE ME
Open-minded individual, looking for a beautiful lady, to make my princess. Would like to settle with one woman for the rest of my life. **3305**

UP TO A CHALLENGE?
Clean-cut, fun-loving CM, 36, seeks bad girl to show me what I've been missing. I'm a quick learner! **3268**

FOR CHINESE & FILIPINA LADIES

Latin man would like to meet a petite Chinese or Filipina lady, 18-39, for romance. I'm considerate, respectful, flexible. Can travel for you, if necessary. **3307**

SPIRITUAL, HONEST, SENSUAL
SM, 33, on a quest for the true meaning of life. I'm looking for that special woman that understands and is willing to challenge me. **3246**

BEAUTIFUL LATINA
Sarcastic, fun, athletic DWM, 42, 5'11", 175lbs, East Bay executive, enjoys bookstores, dining, travel. Seeking smart, thoughtful, slim, pretty HF, 28-35, for LTR. **3260**

SEXY & HANDSOME
Well-built SM, 32, 6', 190lbs, dark/light, enjoys mountain biking, lifting weights, exercising, baseball games. Seeking sexy female for casual dating, quiet evenings at home. **3267**

COMMITMENT-MINDED
Very honest, French-speaking SBM, 40s, 5'6", ready to commit to one sexy, open-minded woman for LTR or more. **3263**

WARM, INSIGHTFUL
Attractive, easygoing, open-minded vegetarian, health-conscious SWM, mid-40s. Enjoys reading, current events, ethnic restaurants, good conversation, and personal growth. Seeking like-minded female with sense of humor for companionship. **1882**

I MOVE & DANCE & HOPE
Educated, content SM, 32, N/S, waiting patiently, but going mad. Seeking SF, 18-33. **1887**

SLEEPLESS IN DALY CITY
Educated SW dad, 32, occasional smoker, enjoys tv, affectionate, music. Seeking SF for monogamous relationship. **3242**

MEET ME HALFWAY
Educated SWM, 22, smoker, enjoys excitement and adventure. Seeking feminine SF, 18-27, for friendship. **3243**

BEAUTIFUL VAGABOND WANTED
SM, 29, seeks adventurous, spontaneous woman to run away with, and have amazing adventures. **3235**

SENSUAL OAKLAND MAN
Fit, healthy, good-looking, energetic, passionate, affectionate, sensual, in shape SM, 5'11", 170lbs, seeks non-materialistic, physically-compatible SF, N/S. **3259**

SERIOUS SOUL WORK
Seeking a life partner for a calm, tender relationship based on emotional, spiritual, sexual exploration, fun, dance, good food, family, and community. **7952**

SMART, SWEET, SMILING
Attractive SWM, 30s, likes laughing, quiet times. Seeking SWF, 28-36, with a brain, soul, personality and ability to love and be loved. **3222**

JAMAICAN MAN...
Looking for a nice person to walk, talk, dance, dine, laugh a friend first, love after. If you're that person, 40-55, give me a call. **3223**

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SPIRITUALLY INCLINED
Professional, stable SWM, 5'9", 155lbs, psychologically-minded, spiritually-inclined, loves outdoor activities (hiking, biking) and cultural enrichment (movies, conversation). Seeking slender, attractive, sensual female, 30-50, any race, with similar interests and values for friendship, romance, committed relationship. **3225**

SLENDER ASIAN WOMAN?
Fit, healthy DWPM, 47, 6'1", 180lbs, seeks Asian lady, 30-55, for no strings, safe, physical fun. **3226**

MY BLUE EYES AWAIT
West or Eastern European woman desired by warm, imaginative European/Jewish gentleman, 40, entrepreneur. Let's enjoy travels, museums, deep conversations. **3234**

SEEKING FAMILY-ORIENTED FEMALE
Fun-loving, financially secure attorney, early 40s, seeks relationship with someone who enjoys children and travel. **1271**

PARTNER IN FUN
Long-haired Asian therapist, 34, seeks buddy to have fun with, for hikes, art museums, movies, dinner, and conversation. **3232**

LET SHARE DINNERS
Honest, open SBM, 40s, seeks honest, easygoing SF, ready to commit to a LTR. **3216**

WALNUT CREEK AREA
SWPM, 6', 198lbs, N/S, retired, enjoys dancing, hiking, travel, films, exploring restaurants and museums. Seeking slender SWPF, 55-65, for sharing above activities. **3218**

DINNER COMPANION
Honest, handsome, educated, financially secure SWM, 6'2", 195lbs, brown/blue, San Diego professional, travels to San Francisco for business. Seeking an attractive female dinner companion, 30-40. **3220**

MAN, 54, ENDOWED WITH
priceless gifts: lively mind, kind heart, playful spirit, fit body, desires woman equally feminine (buxomly) well-endowed, for exchanging gifts. **6978**

A HAND 2 HOLD AN EAR 2 LISTEN
SWM, 42, 5'9", impotent but still in need of a friend, don't make much money, but obviously very honest and caring West Contra costa county. **3217**

A KNIGHT TO REMEMBER
Let this tall, young, handsome, SWM, 28, in shining armor sweep you off your feet. Princess, please be adventurous, lovely, delectable, divine. **3191**

JEWISH WOMAN WANTED
Zany, irreverent, sometimes too sarcastic SJM, 52, broadcast journalist, seeks JF, 45-51, who enjoys swimming, travel, short hikes, and watching "The Simpsons". **3192**

LONG-NAIRED MUSICIAN
SM, 29, seeks attractive, European soulmate, age/race unimportant, for love and possibly relocating to Europe. **3205**

COUNTRY BOY SEEKS SIMPLE GIRL
SWM, 29, 6'2", 225lbs, short brown/blue, truck driver, loves movies/outdoors, sports, hiking, fishing. Seeking SF with similar interests, for committed relationship. **3204**

SPIRITUALLY MINDED
Tall, attractive SM, 29, into meditation, exercise, and clean moral living. I enjoy hiking, movies, and vegetarian food. Seeking SF, 20-35, with similar interests. **3197**

SMART & FIT
Writer, 26, just out of grad school, enjoys running, novels, music, conversation. Seeking friendship and romance with a smart, creative, down-to-earth woman, 22-32. **3206**

INTO BIG WOMEN
Seeking well-rounded woman who just wants to be loved, kissed, and hugged. If you need this, I am your man. **3208**

DOMINANT MIXED BLACK MALE
Attractive, dominant SBM, 46, 5'11", 179lbs, gym toned, seeks a submissive, obediently romantic, adventurous lady. I am gently but firmly in control. **3199**

SEEKING COMPANION
SBM, 24, light smoker, college degree, in Oakland, seeks emotionally strong, down-to-earth, adventurous female, 20-24. Interest in cosmic physics a real plus! **3186**

PARTNER IN CRIME
World traveled SWM, 32, seeks female friend, 22-36, for hanging out, movies, dive bars, and friendship. If sparks fly, who knows what will happen? **3188**

YOUNGER SEEKING OLDER
Attractive, intelligent Latin male, 28, seeks successful, independent S/DF, 35-50, homeowner, for romantic, quiet enjoyable evenings, and possible relationship. **3189**

PETITE SEXY CURVES
Intelligent, attractive, independent, creative male 26 seeks sexy, petite, exotic, intelligent female 19-26 for quality time, and possible relationship. **3190**

BREAKING THE ICE
This is an excellent way for singles to meet. Widowed WM, 50s, 6'1", seeks emotionally available, affectionate SWF, 48-58, dating, LTR. Let's meet for coffee. **8154**

A GREAT CATCH

Affluent, attractive, athletic SWM, 6', 185lbs, 39, seeks smart and sexy best friend/lover, 27-37 for marriage/family. N/S, please no kids yet. **7798**

FRIENDLY, LONG-HAIRED A/NF
Sweet, successful, attractive, in shape, English PM looking for fun/love/LTR with passionate, petite(ish) A/HF, 20s-30s, ready to be appreciated, pampered and spoiled. **1873**

WANTED: MATURE WOMEN
Erotic, sensual, fun man, 6'4", 235lbs, brown/blue, athletic build, seeks older, mature woman who need affection and attention. Please be spontaneous, outgoing, nasty, kinky. **9556**

AFFLUENT BUSINESSMAN
Handsome male, seeks playmate, 18-35, to spoil. **1548**

'LOOKIN' FOR FUN
You: busty, erotic, fit, fun, uninhibited, female, any age, desiring friendship, intimacy, LTR. Me: athletic SWM, homeowner with pool, 6 cars. Marin County. **1549**

YOGIC MAN SEEKS LOVER
Yogic WM, 34, N/S, no children, enjoys travel and speaking French. Seeking spiritual female, 25-45, to merge into one. **3129**

SEEKING ACTIVE PARTNER
SWM, 32, 5'11", 165lbs, brown/brown, enjoys book stores, cafes, hiking, movies, conversation. Seeking SWF, 24-34, with similar interests, for dating, possible relationship. **3130**

NI
WM, 32, graduate student, enjoys dancing and romantic dinners. Seeking a woman to share fun times, romance, and intimacy. **3133**

FOR GREAT JUSTICE
WM, 42, smoker, no children, likes Jet Li, Tony Kushner, Mozart. Seeking a woman, 24-42. **3135**

ARTS APPRECIATING NICE GUY
Friendly, nice-looking, tall, thoughtful designer. Smart, humorous, sometimes clueless, enjoys the outdoors, hiking, music, movies, museums, dogs, and lots more. Seeking pretty, trim, bright female, 30s to early 40s, with similar interests. **6411**

LOOKING FOR LOVE
Tall, loving SWPM, 48, homeowner, hobby musician (R&B) enjoys hiking, motorcycling, light camping, walking, health. Seeking slender, medium lady, who wants children. **8860**

ASIAN LADY!
SWPM, 45, non-smoker, sincere, successful, intelligent, generous, affectionate, tall, fun, seeks sweet, smart, attractive, fun, positive SAF for sharing outdoor activities, travel, film. **1058**

20-25? WANT SOMETHING BETTER?
Be spoiled, uplifted, appreciated, have fun. Understand love and life! Meet attractive, slim, fit, successful European male, 40+, friendly, casual, adventurous. Seeking slim, long-haired woman. **3144**

HONEY, WHERE ARE YOU?
Attractive, athletic, sincere SWM seeks pretty, pretty female for adventure and romance: boating, motorcycling, riding and possible LTR. **3158**

WARM-HEARTED PHYSICIAN
Attractive, humorous, sensitive, considerate SWM, 34, 5'8", 165lbs, (fit) brown/dark-brown seeks SAF, companion and best friend to share fun, laughter, moonlight conversations, mountain walks. **9459**

OPEN ARMS
SBM, 34, seeks someone interested in an interracial relationship for partying and having fun. **3147**

NOPELESSLY ROMANTIC
DWPM, 56, 5'6", 170lbs, love medicine, love my daughters, love the blues, and I'd love to love you. Easygoing, kind, warm, sensual, playful, erotic, spiritual, solid. Seeking same in pretty girl next door type. 40-50, medium build fit. Let's! **1712**

WHEN SUGAR MELTS
SBM, 34, 6'2", attractive, athletic, seeks SW/AF. You enjoy swimming, travel, sightseeing, and candlelight. No drugs. **1811**

SEEKING A FRIEND
AM, 38, smoker, no children, seeks a woman, 28-40, for movies, hanging out, and just shooting the breeze. **3118**

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SMART AND SENSUAL

WM, 40s, 5'9", 170lbs, H/W proportionate, well-balanced in mind, body and spirit, enjoys weekend getaways, the outdoors. Seeking romantic, outgoing, fun-loving woman, 30-42, similar interests. **3133**

GUY SEEKING GAL

This SWM, 46, seeks an emotionally/physically possible SPF, 36-56, who will challenge me and help make me a better person. Seeks friendship and more. **3112**

SIMPLE PLEASURES

SAPM, 32, 6', likes film, obscure eateries, hiking, golf, and weirdness. Seeking affection, companionship, LTR, from intelligent, vibrant, SF, 30-36, N/S, N/D. No rabid fundamentalists. **3111**

SEEKING A HIGH PRIESTESS
Creative, confident, intellectual, intuitive, stable, sensitive witty Knight of Staves, 27, big fan of the color purple, seeks open-minded, dependable, self-appointed guardian of feminine mystique. **3112**

LOOKING FOR LOVE
Fun-loving SWM, 36, 6', 150lbs, sandy blond/blue, slim build, in shape, seeks honest SF for friendship first, possible LTR. **3081**

TALL AND HANDSOME
Educated, romantic, playful, sincere, open-minded, easygoing BPM, slim, seeks attractive, slender female, 45+, for romance, social, and outdoor activities. **3116**

PLUS-SIZED WOMAN
Kind, understanding, romantic, San Francisco-born HM, 53, 5'8", 175lbs, seeks romantic relationship with full-figured WF. **3091**

EAST BAY TALL COLLEGE MAN
SWM, 24, enjoys music, mountain biking, conversation, reading, writing. Seeking honest, outgoing, down-to-earth, attractive SF, age unimportant, for possible LTR. **3103**

THE CITY IS BACK!
Not totally... handsome, fully employed SWM, 30, 5'10", 140lbs, blond/blue, seeks cute SF, 23-34, for fun dating. Like The Headcoats (or similar), movies, charming bars? **3105**

GENTLE PHYSICIAN

Tall, slim DWP, 55, lively mind, warm heart, fun-loving spirit, enjoys art, science, brain exercise and can express feelings. Desires LTR with WPF, 40+. **3107**

IS IT 4:20 YET?

SWM, 28, 5'11", 185lbs, big heart, recently moved from Chicago, loves clubs, road trips. Seeking beautiful, fun-loving, woman, with similar interests, any race, for LTR. **3108**

PENNIES FOR YOUR THOUGHT
Mensch, 27, seeks yenta, 25-29, who keeps kosher, for painting town red and studying the sciences of life while basking in sunlight. **3159**

CATCH ME!

Good-looking, educated DWM, 29, 5'11", 155lbs, loves outdoors, animals, music. Seeking SF, 25-35, N/S, for friendship first, possible relationship. **3061**

CEREBRAL, YET CHILDLIKE
Carefree, sensibly masculine SAM, 28, more of a leader than a follower, a free-roaming cat. Seeking SF, 22-35, for friendship first, possible LTR. **3062**

I'LL KNOW WHEN I FINO IT
SWM, 29, N/S, N/D, fit and employed, seeks beautiful SW/A/H F for fun, romantic LTR. I like movies, music, cooking shopping, dancing. **3064**

FREE MESSAGE
Each love lovingly caressed. Scent fragrance dabbed in the air is lovingly massaged. For love not money. A loving, free love message. **3067**

CATCH ME!
Good-looking, educated DWM, 29, 5'11", 155lbs, loves the outdoors, animals, music, food, and the beach. Seeking SF, 25-35, to explore life with, for possible LTR. **3071**

LEFTIST

Pro-feminist SWM, 53, spiritually progressive, energetic, upbeat, health care professional, loves music, dancing, exercise, outdoors, kids, political and other work, etc. Seeking leftist, feminist mate. **3094**

SEXY, SMART SURGEON
45 year old, sweet, easygoing, fun-loving man, 5'7", 175lbs, good-looking, funny, open-minded. Seeking fit, sexy, Asian/Caucasian lady, 25-40. **3169**

LOOKING FOR A DATE
College-educated, gainfully-employed, health-minded DAM, 33, N/S, father, seeks SF, 21-35, for friendship first. **3068**

SEEKING ASIAN LADY...
attractive, bright, thoughtful, who has room in her life for a good man. Attractive, athletic, intelligent world-traveled SW gentleman, 46, needs a hand to hold. **3151**

ARE YOU POSITIVE?
Attractive, professional SWM, 40, 30s, seeks attractive, professional, intelligent, independent, emotionally secure, financially stable, HIV+, discreet female, for friendship, possible LTR. **3176**

SKINNY MUSE SOUGHT BY ARTIST
Long black-haired, young, submissive, prefer Asian or foreign, for painting, photography, sculpture, film, decoration, and body worship. Poor English acceptable. Room and board provided. **3035**

INVISIBLE
Spiritually conscious individual wants to make five in to one, seeks one and all who understand poetry, knowledge, change, no fear, the world. **3040**

PROGRESSIVE ASIAN SOUGHT
by tall, fit, handsome, masculine SWM. 8e 30-50, a good communicator, and value what's real in life, honesty, openness, health and taking risks. **3041**

CASUAL AND CLEAN
SWM, 36, employed student, light drinker, into music, amusement parks and dogs. Seeking educated and athletic S/D for friendship, possible LTR. **3042**

PASSWORD: 3737...
swordfish! Slim Sicilian male, 37, 5'10", artist, film-maker, entrepreneur, shrouded in mystique, enjoys fine dining, artist receptions, motorcycles. Seeking intelligent, alluring, creative partner in crime! **3044**

I NEED A RIVAL!
If you can beat me at my video games, I'll do as you please. But if I win, you'll do as I wish! Let's go! **3049**

INTELLIGENT EUROPEAN
I am looking for an intelligent female. I am tall, affectionate, educated SWM, 40+, and like music, outdoors, reading, movies, arts. **3054**

EXCEPTIONAL
Decent, intelligent, professional, good-looking, sensitive, healthy, warm-hearted, trim WM, youngish 57, 5'10", seeks pretty woman, 40-48, culturally diverse, with social interests and similar qualities. **3119**

WORLDLY, SPIRITUAL...
Liberal SWF desired, LTR. Me: British-accented, goddess-centric, agnostic buddhist, into yoga, tantra, intellectual polyglot globe trotter, 30s, PhD, slim, olive-complected, mediterranean-looking, handsome, East Indian prince. **3036**

HIGH AS WELL BE ON MARS
SWM, 32, long black hair, new to area, enjoys clubs, beaches, city exploring, dining. Seeking outrageous, outgoing SPK undercover-bad-girl for rock-n-roll, crazy nights, possible LTR. **38814**

LET'S TALK SOON!
Seeking a woman who must be willing to lie about how we met. Adventurous, fun, passionate SWM, 29, seeks SF, 21-35, race unimportant, children welcome. **3014**

COMPANIONSHIP
Good-looking SWM, 46, 5'10", 170lbs, seeks attractive SF, 30-50, for companionship, dinner, movies, ball games, ocean excursions, possible LTR. **3138**

ARE YOU SPONTANEOUS?

Educated, attractive, fun-loving SAF, 33, enjoys music, the arts, sports, nature, intellectual conversation. Seeking compassionate male for relationship. **3022**

ISO MY ROCKABILLY PRINCESS
You: 21-35, dark hair, thin, smart, beautiful, funny, tattooed. Me: 31, handsome, educated, crystal blue eyes, dark hair, 6'3", 225lbs, muscular, tattoos, old school, working-class punk. Us: faithful, romantic, traveling the world, live music, cruising in my '55. **3028**

TOGETHER, TO ENJOY
SWM, 39, intelligent, great sense of humor, seeks full-figured or plus-sized SWF to enjoy the best that life has to offer. **3005**

SEXY, OUTGOING GENTLEMAN
SHM, 31, 5'11", 210lbs, curly brown/brown, goatee, light complexion, collects cars, antiques, likes dancing, movies, car shows, outdoors, swimming. Seeking sweet, outgoing, attractive SF. **3082**

DOCTOR SAM
Good-looking SM, 5'8", 170lbs, dentist, athletic, likes sports, playing the piano, travel, night clubs. Seeking thoughtful, slim, fit, optimistic SF for possible relationship. **3003**

TOGETHER
Caring, dependable, handsome S8PM, 40, enjoys movies, jazz, street fairs, quiet evenings at home, dining, good conversation. Seeking SF for friendship, possible relationship. **3031**

HEALTHY, ATHLETIC, INDEPENDENT
SM, 50, 5'6", would share life and laughter, art and nature. We may debate over the doctrine and -isms. **3025**

A LOT TO OFFER
SWM, 39, seeks SF, 20s-30s, 5'2"-6", 150-200lbs, for walks on the beach, lunch, music, videos, good conversation, and rides on my Harley. **3083**

WANT TO HAVE FUN?
I'm your man! Good-looking, modest SWM, 35, good sense of humor, with college degree, likes travel, working out. Seeking female, 22-40, for friendship. **3015**

EXPLORE SF WITH ME
Single male, 28, grew up in Egypt, London, Paris, Delhi, loves travel, new age/rock/lounge music. Seeking female for hiking, restaurants, wine tasting, Las Vegas. Friendship. **3017**

JUST FOR YOUR FRIEND...
because the woman I looking for probably doesn't answer ads. I'm 38, tall, educated, attractive. Seeking quality in dating. Intelligence and sophistication are sexy. **3019**

SINCERE GENTLEMAN
46, seeks considerate, affectionate, fun-loving, classy lady, for companionship, love, and commitment. Enjoys the outdoors, restaurants, cooking. Life is much better when you're in love. **3043**

SPIRITUAL EUROPEAN
Smart, sensitive, sincere, funny, tall, fit, handsome SWM, 37. Seeks brown eyed beauty, SF, any race please, for fun, romance, great conversation. **3180**

TALL PROFESSIONAL ARTIST
WM, 31, 6'2", slim, dark hair, enjoys figurative painting and drawing, playing guitar, and sports. Seeking intelligent, attractive, empathetic woman, 25-34. **3199**

LOOKING FOR MS. SINCERE
Handsome D8M, ex-naval officer, seeks slender SF who enjoys music, art, and acting in LA area for LTR. **3066**

COMPANION SOUGHT
Successful artist/photographer/video producer, attractive, fit, fun male, 49, loves fine dining, exotic travel. Seeks a beautiful, intelligent, adventuresome literary bohemian girl, 20-40. Let's go! **3067**

PALE, LARGE-SIZED...
chubby, fat, voluptuous WF, any age, wanted by tall, handsome, Mediterranean WM, 29, green eyes. I am monogamous, considerate, and romantic. **30313**

CUTE GERMAN

SWM, 37, attractive, blond, blue eyes, 5'7", enjoys traveling, concerts, outdoors, diners, seeks cute SF, race open, for LTR. **3068**

LIFE IS BEST SHARED

Well-educated SM, 31, N/S, seeks SF, 35+, for friendship first and possible LTR. **3156**

FUN FOR SOMEONE

Anyone out there want to play? Educated Italian-American man, 36, occasional smoker, seeks adventurous fun with a lucky lady, 26-44, out there. **3158**

LOVER OF LIFE SEEKS PLAYMATE

Very fit, dark, handsome, highly-educated Mediterranean-looking SWJM, 45, 5'11", 170lbs, black/dark brown, loves nature, hiking, beach, working out. **3145**

THE POWER OF LOVE
SWPM, 46, kind, thoughtful, unconventional, seeks slender woman with similar qualities and love of the arts to share my life with. You won't be disappointed! **3193**

SEEKING REAL ROMANTIC
Sincere, romantic man, 45, N/S, strong believer in moderation and balance in life, seeks educated, romantic woman, 20-45. **3096**

ME 4 FUN

Somewhat shy SM, 38, N/S, no children, enjoys hanging out and lounging around at home. Seeking a woman, 21-40. **3135**

PISCES, WITH TAURUS RISING
Positive, smiling HM, 29, occasional smoker, no children, seeks a woman, 23-35, into astrology, to bring out the best in me. **3136**

LOOKING FOR SOME FUN !!!
Attractive SWM, 25, occasional smoker, no children, seeks a good friend for fun and possibly more. **3137**

6 IN OOG YEARS

Environmental consultant. Currently in Texas, but mi corazon resides in San Francisco. Ultrafit seeks outgoing, active, traditional Latina. Meet when next in town? **3133**

GETTING BUSY LIVING
Low maintenance WM, 31, occasional smoker, enjoys travel. Seeking a low maintenance woman for friendship, possible LTR. **3108**

BOOT SHAK'N JAM BANO FUN!
ISO cute dancing/party partner for summer festivals, concerts. High Sierra Music Festivals, Phil Lesh & Friends, String Cheese Incident, more. Me: cute, fun-loving surfer guy. **3109**



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1-900-328-0133

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CALIFORNIA NOMAD
Educated, athletic SWM, 31, 5'8", brown/blue, non-smoker, self-employed carpenter, loves mountain-biking, hiking, traveling. Seeking free-spirited, slim SWF, 26-40, for more exploration! **3145**

A VERY SPECIAL SUMMER
Compassionate SM, 34, loves cooking, biking, simple living. Seeking wise, compassionate, special SF for exploring the city. **3191**

LOVE IS JUST A 4 LETTER WORD
Easygoing, good-natured SWM, mid-50s, enjoys tennis, swimming, mystery movies, driving up the beautiful Oregon coast. Seeking similar female, 40s-50s, 5'5"-6", for dating. Spend these terrific moments with me. **3170**

CUTE AND CHARMING
Smart, sexy S8M, 31, 5'8", great smile, loves outdoors. Seeking SF for fun and friendship. **31585**

SET THE NIGHT ON FIRE
SM, 5'11", long black hair, piercings, tattoos, rock-n-roll musician, enjoys beach, concerts, club, city exploration. Seeking sexy, exotic semi-Asian piece of candy. **31618**

BALANCING ACT
Handsome short, pale SAM, 38, balancing work, spiritual, health, emotional healing, art, social justice. Seeking kindred soul on like path. **31948**

GREAT GUY
This water, 30, 5'11", enjoys cooking. Seeking a woman, 29-42, San Francisco area, for LTR. **31934**

LAST ONE
Are there no single, straight, emotionally-stable, financially-secure, intelligent, trustworthy men? Then I'm the last one. Call before I vanish. WPM, 46, seeks pretty WF, 30-something. **31911**

FINANCIAL DISTRICT OIVA?
Opposites = Frisco fun. You: beautiful, petite, 30-39. His: polar opposite with a dark eyed/haired siren downtown. **31913**

PETITE, BEAUTIFUL, ITALIANA?
Foreign born? 25-35? Single? Dark eyes/raven hair? Frisco? Even better! Kind a plus! This cuter, attractive Sicilian guitarist, 29, wants you. **31914**

ART, BEER & JOHNNY HISPANIC
Thirty-something, would-be photographer/jewelry designer, Spanish/Cuban/American, but don't look it, occasional hard drinker. Looking for woman who doesn't act her age. Come drink, dance, and create with me! **31623**

CAN YOU RIDE THE HARLEY?
Educated SWM, 30, seeks special girl who knows how to have fun on my Harley. Will respond to all inquiries so don't be shy. **31903**

SEEING IS BELIEVING
SWJM, 23, 5'11", 155lbs, brown/blue, enjoys concerts, clubs, travel, skiing. Seeking SF to spoil for LTR. **31904**

YOUNG MAN SEEKS OLDER WOMAN
Tall, dark, sexy, stocky, sweet, long-haired gentleman, 36, looks 20s, sense of humor, enjoys movies, music. **31907**

COMPANIONSHIP

Decent, intelligent, good-looking, healthy, warm-hearted SPM, 43 seeks decent woman with social interests for companionship, dining, movies, ball games, ocean. **31917**

ADVENTUROUS TRAVELER?
Young, athletic SWM, 56, with a custom camping van for full-time travel: USA, Canada, Mexico. See the natural, beautiful, wonders of our world at a slow steady speed. Share. LTR. **31906**

LOOKING
Attractive, humorous, intelligent SWM 50, enjoys outdoors, films, progressive politics, food, and good conversation. Looking for woman, 40-52, for LTR. **30812**

READY TO SHARE
Muscular, fit, attractive SM, 41, 5'10", 180lbs, brown/green, H/W proportionate, father, enjoys playing guitar, song-writing, movies. Seeking SF for casual relationship first. **31522**

LOOKING FOR GOOD FRIEND
AM, 28, occasional smoker, no children, seeks female, 18-40, for movie theaters, dancing, swimming, chatting, and friendship. **31886**

SINGLE GUITAR PLAYER
WM, 30, 6'2", brown/brown, enjoys guitars, concerts, music, movies, outdoors, nice dinners, and boating in the Bay. Seeking SF, 18-35, who enjoys the same. **31892**

PROGRESSIVE & WELL-TRAVELED

SWM, 42, polyglot (Dans, Spanish, Portuguese), lives in Stockton (relocatable) seeks weekend companion for hiking, concerts, dancing, restaurants, picnics, cycling, swimming, movies, travel, perhaps more. **31881**

SJM SEEKS GOODOOS...

to worship—who's born in the year of the tiger/horse? on 31st day of the month. Good fortune, good sex, and happy hearts. **31068**

ISN'T LIFE AN ADVENTURE?
Slender, East Indian SM, 27, 5'8", loves the bay area, the cultural scene, seeks fun-loving female, 20-27, for friendship and possibly more. **31876**

LAKEVILLE TO POLLOCK
Short, sweet, soft, feminine, secure lady sought by SWM, 40, 5'9", 210lbs, handsome, with husky build, dirty blond/blue, for LTR. Enjoys hiking, biking, barbecues, motorcycling. **31877**

SANTA ROSA AREA
Well-built, Christian SWPM, 55, 6', enjoys camping, long walks. Seeking SF for LTR or marriage. **31888**

TRAVEL THE WORLD
Accomplished architect SWM, 56, seeks SF muse to share eccentric, eclectic travel. My primary goals are to have fun and to find retirement location. Only prerequisites are not being a tourist, no cold climates, having an upbeat attitude, and flexible schedule. Let's talk soon! **31878**

ROMANCE, ADVENTUROUS
Romantic, adventurous SM, 45, 5'11", 160lbs, light brown/blue, moustache, slim build, loves animals. Seeking outgoing, understanding, compassionate, open-minded SF with similar interests. Communication is important. **31382**

HAPPY TAXI DRIVER
SWM, 35, 6'2", 300lbs, brown/blue, enjoys movies, dining out, playing pool. Seeking open-minded, fun-loving SF, 20-30. **31513**

DOWN FOR ANYTHING
Filipino SM, 27, 5'6", 145lbs, seeks female for casual dating. Should be up to doing anything. **31864**

ENERGY CRISIS?
Not here. DWM, 50s, seeks petite female, 50s, to share my love, my heart, for LTR. Dancer a plus. **31475**

THE DOCTOR SEEKS ROMANA
SWM, 20s, seeks fun, educated Whovian, 20s, for time travel and other adventures. **31541**

SUGAR MAGNOLIA WANTED
SM, 28, recently relocated from Chicago, enjoys concerts, jam bands, travel. Seeking WW, 22-30, with similar interests. **31863**

SEEK FILIPINA FUMMATE
Very cute, sexy, smart DWM, 50, looks 40, 6'1", 185lbs, muscular, blond/blue, N/S, seeking a woman for LTR. **31351**

I'LL MAKE YOU LAUGH
Well-educated, well-traveled SWM, 31, ex-river guide, former professional chef, ready to find a woman who captures my attention. **31834**

LET'S MEET FOR COFFEE
College-educated SAM, 26, enjoys quiet evenings at home. Seeking SF for friendship first. **31837**

ALL AROUND GREAT GUY
I'm all that and more. Decent, honest SAPM, 39, 6', heart-of-gold, great sense of humor, with a desire to meet a wonderful, inspiring woman. **31840**

TALES OF THE CITY
Quiet, laid-back Native American male, 33, likes tropical travel, computers, dining out, movies, romance. Seeking female, 18-60, for friendship, maybe more. **31814**

HELLO
Educated separated WM, 34, 5'9", brown/brown, average build, self-employed, seeks SF, for friendship, possible LTR. **31815**

SMART AN SEXY
SWM, 5'8", 170lbs, dark blond/blue, seeks down-to-earth, easygoing woman, average build for companionship, possibly more. **31822**

SWEET AND LOVING

Hello, Are you looking for a great guy to spend some time with? I am that guy! Fit, 30, hard-worker, honest, caring. Call me! **31826**

SMART AND SEXY

Adventurous SWM, 5'11", 185lbs, dark brown/hazel, college educated, enjoys movies, chess, sports, having fun, swimming. Seeking outgoing, fun, down-to-earth lady, friendship first, hopefully LTR. **31830**

HOT BLACK SEX...

different race hot, above average, attractive, fit, safe female, 30+. Decent, mature, intelligent, considerate, good-looking, slender, energetic. 8M, 40, 5'11", 205lbs. **3182**

EXPLORER SEEKS EXPLORER
Passionate, intense, strong, affectionate, hopefully humorous WM, 49, occasional smoker, seeks a woman, 22-42, for a passionate, intense relationship. **31803**

POETIC SPIRIT SEEKS...
intimate friendship. Sexy SM, 5'10", 170lbs, enjoys poetry slams, live music, movies, art, and writing haikus. Seeking fun, adventurous female, for friendship first. **31817**

SMART BLACK WOMAN...
sought by white guy, 39, 6', in good shape (hope you are too). Likes: good food and wine, hiking, baseball, music, travel, trying new things. **31796**

BEHIND THE REDWOOD CURTAIN
SWAM, 43, professional, intelligent, very athletic, Humboldt County, tan all over. Need I say more? **31799**

COME IN

Fit SM, 38, 180lbs, brown/brown, seeks strong, witty, sensual SF for friendship first. **31801**

SUMMER WORSHIPPER
Shaken, not stirred! Tall, handsome, intelligent, passionate humanist, 38, mostly vegan, loves animals, music, and wine. Seeking busy, progressive PF, 25-45, for LTR. Coffee first? **31787**

BIG MAN

Fun SM seeks young, petite or thick, Latin or Filipina SF exciting friendship, possibly more. **31776**

JULIET, WHERE ARE YOU?
Multiracial SM, 19, 5'5", 160lbs, medium build, seeks sweet, sensual SF for friendship first, possible committed LTR. **31775**

LOOKING FOR LOVE
Good-looking SWM, 38, 6'3", 200lbs, blond/blue, enjoys camping, horseback riding, fishing. Seeking SF for friendship first, possible long-term relationship. **31784**

LOOKING FOR LOVE
DWM, 62, 5'6", writer, enjoys reading, travel, movies. Seeking intelligent, imaginative, attractive, independent woman with sense of humor and irony. Not into gurus, corporate

INTERESTING IN SPORTS? HEALTH?

Nutrition? SM, 39, 5'10", athletic build, N/S, N/D, seeks lady, with these interests, for dinner, movies, walks, LTR. **1740**

SMART & SEXY

Separated, college-educated AM, 30, 5'8", medium build, enjoys working out. Seeking AF. **1754**

SOMEWHERE OUT THERE

Tanned SM, 22, 5'10", 180lbs, black/brown, enjoys sports, clubbing, movies. Seeking W/HF. **1758**

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE

SM, 42, seeks adventurous woman for fun, wine country, fishermen's wharf, tennis, golf. **1760**

SEEKING BUSTY FEMALE

Italian WM, 47, San Francisco homeowner, seeks busty, plump WF, under 200lbs. Long hair a plus. **1752**

SCORPIO FUN

SM, 52, gray/brown, moustache, enjoys movies, travel, hiking, sports, reading, outdoors. Seeking SF. **1756**

SENSUAL?

College-educated, very good-looking SWM, 47, 5'7", 125lbs, occasional smoker, grown children, seeks SF, 35-66. **1739**

YOU ARE...

shy, introverted, but strong. You like very intelligent men. Few could understand your heart totally. Sometimes you feel so lost. Let's work together. **1759**

SEEKING SPORTS-MINDED PERSON

SM, 44, enjoys movies, books, dancing, sports. Seeking SF with similar interests. **1761**

DON'T BREAK MY HEART

Filipino SM, 25, no kids, new to town, seeks SF for friendship first, possible LTR. **1742**

RELATIONSHIP WANTED

Athletic, handsome, blue-eyed SWPM, 54, businessman, 5'7", 150lbs, lives on peninsula. Seeking slender female, 40s, for dating. **1738**

WHO'S OUT THERE?

Russian/Puerto Rican male, 27, 5'11", 160lbs, enjoys movies, blues/jazz music. Seeking a woman for casual dating. **1735**

LOOKING FOR LOVE

Fit SHM, 22, 5'9", 165lbs, warehouse supervisor, enjoys working-out, movies, shooting pool, basketball. Seeking laid-back, fun-loving SF for friendship first. **1747**

HANOSOME AND SLIM

Attractive, clean-cut, Italian SWM, 33, 5'7", 155lbs, brown/blk, seeks lively, open-minded SW/HF, 20-30, for relationship. **1722**

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE

SWM seeks smart, trustworthy, beautiful SF, race unimportant, for friendship first, possible committed LTR. **9397**

ARE YOU SWEET AND SEXY?

College-educated AM, 25, N/S, no children, seeks sweet and sexy female, 18-35, who enjoys dancing and sports. **1702**

FOR KEEPS

Fun, active, responsible SWM, 36, smoker, with loyalty like granite. Seeking honest SF, 18-45, for friendship first, possible committed relationship. **1664**

COFFEE SOMETIME?

Handsome, kind, caring SWM, 40, enjoys art, science, good coffee, dancing, day hiking, warm cha sui bau. Seeking honest SF, 35-45, for friendship. possible LTR. **1668**

ITALIAN SALSA LOVER

SWPM, 39, N/S, speaks Italian, Spanish, English, enjoys travel. Seeking pretty, sensual SF, 18-45, for friendship first, possible LTR. **1699**

TRUCKER

SM, 54, 5'9", 178lbs, brown/hazel, full beard, likes outdoor activities, motorcyles, panning for gold. Seeking outdoorsy, lady who loves travel with her guy. **1663**

GIVE ME A CALL

Athletic SM, 36, 6', 150lbs, brown/brown, seeks, slim, athletic, attractive, sweet, sexy woman for friendship first. **1679**

COME AND GET ME

SBM, 28, occasional smoker, father, searching for a true SF, 19-35, who doesn't play games. **1656**

FEEL LIKE A THIRD WHEEL?

Well-educated, marriage-minded SWM, 33, N/S, enjoys soccer, skiing, reading, volunteering. Seeking SF, 25-38. **1657**

NATURE LOVER

Playful, spiritual, intelligent Capi-Sag, 30, 5'6", seeks sensual Scorpio, lover, 22-33, with interests in Healing arts, natural living, astrology, languages, and hiking. Sonoma county. **1644**

TAKE IT EASY

Mellow, educated SPM, 45, 5'11", 230lbs, enjoys sports, dining, movies, television, relaxing at home. Seeking SPM, 30-40, with similar interests. **1659**

THE RIGHT WOMAN?

Fun-loving SHM, 43, 5'5", 130lbs, black/black, business-owner, father of two, enjoys dining, movies, parks. Seeking petite, kind SF for romantic relationship. **1653**

INTELLIGENT, HONEST...

compassionate, energetic, funny, unpretentious, fit, liberal, individualistic, tender, self-employed Martin tender, owner, 40s, seeks honest, smart, spirited, funny, slightly twisted, non-yuppie SWF for LTR. **1655**

LOOKING FOR A GIRLFRIEND

Shy, good-looking, slender SWM, 33, 6'4", romantic, creative, easygoing, seeks cute, slender, fun SF, 25-35. **1642**

VACATION ALL YEAR

Happy, healthy, honestistic older European entrepreneur, independent income, doesn't work, enjoys dancing, foreign tropical travels, fairs, festivals, entertaining friends, bored living alone. Seeking slender woman to have fun, pool resources, take vacations, smell the roses, enjoy life. **1631**

LOOKING FOR...

dominant-minded adventures. Tall, fit, handsome, intelligent, accomplished, LTR-minded, zany, creative DWPM, 50+, sense of humor, seeks bright, adventurous, slender PF, 40+. **1629**

POETIC TERRORIST

SWM, 28, artist, write, loves books, movies, instrumental music, travel. Seeking creative, down-to-earth girl, 18-28, for adventurous times, possible LTR. **1235**

MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Light-skinned SM, 22, 5'5", 120lbs, blond/brown, enjoys clubs, parties, movies, fun. Seeking SF **1632**

TALL OAK ATHLETIC

SM, 34, 175lbs, handsome, passionate, affectionate, successful fitness instructor. Loves to laugh, go to movies, cook, travel. If you have similar views, call me! **1625**

OUTDOORS MAN

Attractive SWM, 41, 5'10", 165lbs, brown/blue, medium build, enjoys hiking and nature, seeks attractive SF for fun, friendship and casual dating. **1627**

SENSUAL

Tall SWM, 35s, seeks sexy lady, 28-40, who enjoys jazz, fine red wine, great fun. Please contact me. We will connect. **1628**

YOGA-ART

Open, vital, fun-loving artist seeks to marry (eventually) a double beauty, compassionate yogini or similar. East Coast roots-world traveling, children loving. **1630**

PETITE TYPE & PERSONALITY

Looking for petite, dark-haired young lady, 30-40, to share after-work gallery receptions, traveling on my motor scooter. Me: 6', 175lbs. You: 5', about 100lbs. **1634**

SANTA GRUZ-WANT FUN/FRIEND

SWM, 31, 5'8", light brown/brown, enjoys dining out, movies, and taking a drive. Seeking a woman for LTR. **1619**

SEEK FUN WOMAN

Good-looking SWM, 5'8", 185lbs, blond/blue, nice body, enjoys, reading, the outdoors, long drives. Seeking open-minded, adventurous, playful, free-spirited SF. **1608**

YOUNG & SEXY

New to town. Ghanaian man seeks woman for friendship first, possible LTR. All calls answered. **1562**

LOOKING FOR FUN

This separated HCM, 34, 5'11", black/brown, average build occasional smoker, with children, seeks a woman, slim-average build, for casual dating. **1567**

ARE YOU THAT PERSON?

WM, 36, San Francisco native, occasional smoker, no children, enjoys outdoor activities and movies. Seeking creative, funny woman, 24-40. **1570**

men seeking men

GOGOA TALES OF THE CITY

Beefy, blonde, goatee, rugged top, hairy, 40-45, 190-200lbs, professional, desired by attractive, cocoa GGM, 40, goatee, Virginia native, into jazz, romance, and monogamy. **3312**

SEEKING SOULMATE

Fit SBM, 44, jazz musician, enjoys live music, cultural events, exercising, tennis, dining. Seeking similar male with similar interests for relationship. **3264**

SEEKING TV FOR TRAINING

Educated SWM, 49, N/S, who's female spirit wants to please the female spirit in you. **3245**

BI-CURIOUS TOP

Handsome, athletic, fit DWM, 5'8", 170lbs, muscular swimmer's build, seeks healthy, fit, discreet Bi or Bi-curious bottom, under 45. **8396**

LOOKING FOR SOME FUN

SM, 27, seeks biracial SM, 24-28, H/W proportionate, for friendship first, possible LTR. **1902**

HEALTHY

East European man desired for friendship by friendly, appealing American guy. **361** **3230**

APPEALING & SMART, TOO

Let's experience creative times sharing reflective, deep conversations. Unique, trim, sensitive HIV-, fair-complected guy, 40, seeks foreigner, 28-45, in SF, North/East Bays. **3233**

DIFFERENT GLASS

Cute, funny GBM, 20, 5'9", 145lbs, seeks GM under 40 who is into indie rock, going to shows and hanging out. Give me a call. **3214**

SEEKING SEXY TS

SAM, 35, 5'11", 180lbs, seeks she-male transsexual, age open, for friendship, possible LTR. **1565**

SEARCHING

GWM, 27, 5'8", 150lbs, blonde, like movies, dining out, music, having fun. Seeking friendship first with SM, under 32. Prefer Asian. **3113**

SEEKING MASCULINE MAN

Average-looking GWM, 28, N/S, seeks masculine GWM, 25-38, H/W proportionate, who enjoys travel, movies, the beach, for friendship first, possible LTR. **3101**

SEEKING EXPERIENCE

Inexperienced IM, 22, 5'6", 135lbs, bottom, seeks experience. Looking for someone to teach me in a short-term relationship. **3068**

CHUBBY BUDDY

Very friendly GWM, 25, 195lbs, black/black, enjoys telling fortunes, table tennis, billiards, bowling, sitcoms. Seeking chubby, handsome, nice, cute man to keep me company. **8610**

BEAUTIFUL BUT NEEDS ATTENTION

Erotic, very nice-looking GWM, 33, 6'4", swimmer, medium build, bottom, Euro-descent, seeks daddy type for pleasure! **3036**

LET'S MEET

WM, 32, 5'11", 300lbs, nice build brown/blue, moustache/goatee, seeks smart, sensible, sexy WM, for fun, friendship, possible relationship. **3039**

OVER 60?

Athletic, active GWM, late 30s, football player build, wants to meet men, 60+, for friendship and intimacy. You take it from here. **3047**

EMPTY SPACE IN MY HEART

GWM, 30, 5'10", 180lbs, very loving, caring and needs it in return. Been alone for 3 years. Seeking same, 25-30, for dating and possibly more. **3048**

HANOSOME ARMENIAN

Good-looking, 42, 5'9", 160lbs, light brown complexion, professional, romantic, in LA. Seeking masculine, straight-acting, Black/South American/Italian, total top male, 22-42, honest, sincere, healthy. For dating/traveling. **8156**

ENJOY QUIET TIMES

Good-looking, caring, affectionate, healthy, slim GAM, 53, 5'7", seeks older GWM for relationship. No smoking. **2029**

GOOD-LOOKING ASIAN FOR WM

Sincere, assertive, independent Asian, 37, 5'6", 125lbs, seeks handsome, healthy white guy, 30-50, for movies, dining and dating, maybe more. Peninsula area and San Francisco. **2018**

ATTRACTIVE

8M, 40, 5'6", 155lbs, bottom, seeks a masculine, top 8M for a serious relationship. You must be serious about spending time together. East Bay. **8662**

ORAL PLEASURE FOR MARRIED BI

SWM, 48, seeks men, 35+, first times, have a plus, for evenings/weekends. Discreet, clean, HIV-, no reciprocation required. **8841**

SHAVE YOUR HEAD...

or any other body part. Muscular GWM, 56, barber, wants to take it all off. Safe, clean fun, or as kinky as you want. **1337**

LOVE SEX IN THE CITY

Very hot, sexy, beefy GAM, 35, 5'6", 155lbs, in great shape, seeks hot, beefy GWM under 45, for great times on a regular basis. **1942**

LATIN OR BLACK MAN

Attractive, athletic, sincere, romantic GWM, 37, 6', 185lbs, seeks stable, open, honest, fit, sensual GB/HM, 30-40, for possible LTR. **1919**

MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE

Very attractive, athletic, Native American SM, 31, long hair, seeks serious friend to share good times. **9774**

EAST BAY CURIOSITY

Straight WM, 44, 6', 198lbs, hardbody, built, masculine, equipped, seeks other straight, built well-equipped 8/H/WM. East Bay, curious dudes, like me, preferred. **1031**

HONEST, CHUBBY...

AM, 31, 5'4", 150lbs, seeks WM, 40-50, disease-free, looks not important. Just be honest. **1880**

READY AND WILLING

Christian GWM, 28, 6'2", seeks down-to-earth male who doesn't do the club scene but wants friendship/relationship. **1885**

SENSE OF HUMOR

GWM, 32, 5'4", 205lbs, black/brown, great personality, sense of humor, enjoys music, drawing, iv, reading, movies, trivia, poetry. **1884**

BI-CURIOUS TOO?

Cute 8iWM, 33, 5'10", 165lbs, built, athletic, young, inexperienced, friendly, sensual, healthy, seeks similar 8iWM, 21-37. **1866**

SEEKING MEXICAN GUY

Good-looking white guy, not into gay scene, seeks Mexican guy, 30+, good-looking. Me: 40, 5'10", HIV-. Let's have sex or get to know each other. **1810**

OLDER SEKS YOUNGER

Intimate friendship sought by an attractive, GWM, mid-70s, who is loving, sexual and who prefers the ongoing company of a younger, good-looking man under 45. **1802**

GULTURE MIX

Single, well-traveled, educated, stocky GWM, 50s, HIV-, smoker, FR A/P, seeks gay Lebanese, Middle Eastern male, for dating. **1745**

PRIVATE TIME

Slender, fit SHM, 25, 5'7", 32 inch waist, enjoys working-out. Seeking fun-loving, laid-back SM for friendship and dating first. **1766**

SEEKING GOOD TIMES

8i-curious SHM, 25, 6', 185lbs, top, seeks good-looking 8iM, 18-25, bottom. Couples are welcome. **9385**

HEALTHY HIV+ SEEKS SAME

Fit, masculine GWM, 39, 5'11", 165lbs, enjoys reading, movies, theater, hiking, kayaking, REM, Sting, Chilli Peppers, Blues Traveler. Seeking slim, younger guy, non-smoker for relationship. **1737**

GN PROFESSIONAL, 25...

5'6", 132lbs, black/dark, light olive complexion, lean, in shape, enjoys movies, picnics, beaches, and Golden Gate park. Seeking male, 21-40. Love of tennis as well. **1708**

GONTAGT

Outgoing, caring, fun, artistic senior male who has lust for life, and is extremely sensual. Seeking Asian or latin male. East Bay preferable, daytime good. **1715**

LOOKING FOR THE FUTURE

SBM, 25, 5'8", 160lbs, into movies, soccer, table tennis, basketball. Seeking SF, with similar interests, for friendship first. **1666**

WAR BUDDIES

Looking for guys around my age to target shoot with. I'm 44, blue collar, in shape, left and have reverence for male love. **1641**

BLEACH BLOND

Green-eyed SM, 36, 5'11", 175lbs, pro photographer, seeks 8iM, 20-34, musician or art student, to share creative times with. **1626**

ARE YOU OUT THERE?

Disease-free SBM, 57, seeks stocky, husky, clean-cut SW/HM, 48-68, for dating. Must be hot-to-trot! **1635**

FRIENDSHIP OR MORE

Attractive, slim, masculine, kind GAM, 30, HIV-, great personality, seeks similar, handsome, masculine GWM, 40s and younger, for dating and LTR. **1225**

NEW IN TOWN

Handsome SWM, 38, 6'1", 190lbs, likes working out, martial arts, movies. Seeking interesting, secure, outgoing SM for friendship and dating. **1534**

WM SEKS AM

GWM, 37, 6', who is slender and good-looking, seeks fun, thoughtful, high-energy GAM for bicycling, coffee and conversation. **1524**

LOOKING FOR YOU

38 year old, attractive, passionate GBM, 6'3", 185lbs, fit and athletic, likes working out, movies, reading, dining out. Seeking same, 30-40. **1540**

SMART AND SEXY

SWM, 31, 5'8", 150lbs, brown/green, smooth body, well-endowed, loves nature, movies, reading. Seeking down-to-earth SM for dating, maybe more. **1501**

HEY GUY! YOU NEVER KNOW!!

Filipino CM, 27, 5'7", 155lbs, 8ay Area, seeks stable, honest, fun, sincere, humorous male, 23-30, 5'8", H/W proportionate, for friendship or more. **1422**

WHEN A MAN WANTS A WOMAN

BackSeat connections

women seeking men

CAN I BE YOURS

SBF, 20, very curvy and well-endowed, 44DDD, 28/37, ISO generous Black or Caucasian Male, for an ongoing mutual, beneficial relationship with a classy lady. ☎1257

FAT FUN

You love to pamper and please. You're generous. You desire sexy women of lush abundance, with mounds of soft, cushiony flesh. I'll be your buffet. ☎1497

WEALTHY GENTLEMEN ONLY

Extremely attractive, sexy, fun female, 26, wants to meet a very wealthy and generous man for mutually beneficial relationship. ☎1491

CARAMEL FOR YOU

Busty, black Bif seeks discreet encounters with attractive female. Caress, cuddling, exploring, good times to be had. Let's explore together. ☎1396

SUGAR DADDY SOUGHT

by a petite, busty blonde for a mutually beneficial arrangement from a generous, wealthy gentleman. ☎1354

THE PASSION OF LOVERS IS... for death, Gothic married female seeks gothic male for dancing and discreet encounters on the side. Must dress and live gothic lifestyle. ☎1369

FULFILL MY FANTASY...

and my boyfriend's. Beautiful WF, 30, 5'7", 115lbs, brown/green, really fit, seeks one or two lucky straight boys for group fun. Be secure, clean, cute. ☎1152

men seeking women

SEEKING EBONY QUEEN

Athletic, liberal, flexible Italian male, 28, 5'8", 190lbs, brown/blue, seeks BF, 35-55, for intimate encounters. ☎1772

LET'S MEET

WM, 32, seeks females for discreet fun and no strings attached friendship. ☎1767

ASIAN SUGAR MAMA WANTED

Young SWM, tall, athletic, blond/blue, seeks hot, very sexual Asian/Indian sugar mama, 35-55, to spoil this fun guy. You won't be disappointed. ☎1722

LET'S GET WILD

Muscular stud seeks wild, adventurous female to party and play at home, in public, on the beach, on vacation... Crazy? You bet! Pleasure a plus! ☎1476

ARTFUL FOURSOMES

Possible moresomes. Mature couple seeks sexual long term loving couple only. Over 50. Elaborate role-playing, sex rituals. Transvestites evenings; princes, daddy. ☎1717

DOMESTIC HELP

Do you need a part-time personal slave? Submissive, trim, discreet, reliable single handyman, seeks attractive woman homeowner in need of help. ☎1724

MEL GIBSON SEEKING...

married AF, 35. Educated married WM, 6', 190lbs, great physique, resemble Mr. Gibson. Me, very high drive, wife, low drive. Seeking married AF. ☎1725

BOTTOM BOY SEEKS TOP GIRL

Cute 27 year-old gay guy who's developed an interest in women. Got a strap-on? Want to introduce me to something new yet familiar? ☎1730

BRAZILIAN WOMAN SOUGHT

8M, 6'4", 210lbs, solid, seeks Brazilian woman, 20-28, slender with wide hips, shoulder-length hair, for private carnival of pleasure. ☎1720

NEGLECTED HUSBAND

Married white male, 42, fit, handsome, and successful, seeks sexy, slim lady for passionate encounters. Deprived for years and waiting to please and be pleasures. ☎1721

EXPERT CUNNILINGUS

guaranteed satisfaction, reciprocity unnecessary, any age/race, please be clean, healthy, wet and ready to cum. I'm clean gentle and discreet. ☎1208

SEEKING

I'm seeking someone to talk to and hopefully hook up with. ☎1697

NOT ME BABE

2cute, 2sweet, 2 nice 4U! Quietly wild gentleman dude with good grip on life seeks slim, long-haired, non-dull woman, 20-40 for great sex, possibly more! ☎1640

TOTAL PACKAGE

Sexy and brainy, Eurasian male, 31, with sharp tongue and wild streak to match, seeks partner in crime to keep me in trouble. ☎1635

SEEKING NASTY FEMALE

Nasty white couple, he: beautiful eyes, nice suntan; she: auburn/brown, very big. Seeking nasty female for nasty fun. ☎1636

SIT UP TONEO

Tall, blonde WM, 36, nice normal, lean slender, athletic body, seeks very thin female counterpart for dating/romance. Flat-chested runner types welcomed! ☎1637

PARISIAN MAN

Fit, mature man, 40, N/S, seeks friend for casual dating, fun and adventure. Serious inquiries only. ☎1638

SEEKING NEW ADVENTURES

Attractive married man, 28, looking to venture out with two women or young married couple. Interested in trying new ideas, and having lots of fun. ☎1634

NICE LOOKING GENTLEMAN...

would like to admire your feminine body, and masturbate himself. Any race, any age, be sincere. ☎1131

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE

Down-to-earth, easygoing, Australian SM, 33, 6'2", 200lbs, in shape, dark/brown, seeks SF. ☎1620

EBONY QUEEN WANTED

WM, 24, new in town, seeks BF for discreet encounters, possible LTR. ☎1621

WANTS LOVE PARTNER

I'm seeking a pretty, sexy, slim, feminine lady with great breasts to do all those things that men love to do. ☎1618

LOOKING FOR LOVE

SM, 31, enjoys quiet evenings at home. Seeking caring SF for friendship first, possible LTR. ☎1557

RAW LOVE

Beautiful, fit, sensual, understanding SWM, 24, loves the female body. Seeking happy, positive woman who needs to have her fantasies understood and fulfilled. ☎1545

MARRIED WITH CHILDREN

Interested in discreet affair in the afternoons with distaff in similar plight. Age/race unimportant, desire to be passionate is. ☎1495

AIM TO PLEASE

East Bay boytoy looking for a female/female couple/or affair. Very oral, long-lasting, active, stable, flexible schedule, good body, and HIV-. You are too. ☎1492

TALL, DARK AND HANDSOME

Professional, married WM, 48, passionate, attentive, funny, trim, seeks attractive, intelligent, petite/slender lady, 25-40, with strong libido for discreet rendezvous. Call me now! ☎1453

MASTER SEEKS SUB & MORE!

Dominant, fit, stable, attractive DWM, 49, 5'11", sense of humor, seeks younger submissive Bif for lust, love, and LTR. Any race. Novice okay. ☎1218

WANTED: NASTY & NAUGHTY

Very well-endowed, very oral WM, 39, 6'4", 240lbs, into toys, seeks women for erotic pleasure, fun times. Don't hesitate if you enjoy being nasty. ☎1386

OLDER WOMEN YOUNGER MAN

WM, 35, 6', 190lbs, brown/green, successful, gentleman, seeks WF, 40-55, for very discrete rendezvous, maybe a ride on my Harley to Calistoga for mud baths. ☎1348

MARRIED? UNFULFILLED?

Tall, handsome, playful, understanding WM, 38, seeks like-minded woman for safe, discreet, erotic relationship. Delightful rendezvous location. Let's embrace what we need. ☎1343

SEXY REOHEAD

Artistic, intelligent, honest, interesting SWM, 32, 5'7", seeks physically fit dancer with strong conversational skills for fun, friendship, and spicy food. ☎1346

POP MY CHERRY IN CENTRAL CC

Good-looking GWM, 40s, 6', 190lbs, blond, novice orally, digs dicks. Smooth, seeks similar-natured top who pumps cherry butt. Looks unimportant. Hygiene, enthusiasm, prowess a plus! ☎1712

HOT & ANXIOUS

81-curious young AM, 25, seeks other males for first time encounters. Emeryville area. ☎1710

STRESS RELIEF

I am seeking a discreet, honest middle-aged man with a husky build and moustache, I am similar, for brief, hot sessions. Oakland area. ☎1725

ATTENTION ALL BLACK MEN

Seeking hot, horny and hung black men, who want their cocked sucked on regular basis by a hot, sexy, very good-looking Latin bottom. ☎1728

CUTE, MATERIAL BOY

Intelligent, handsome, classy GWM, 29, hot body, seeks generous, wealthy HIV- stud for shopping, travel, nightlife, the arts, hot sex, valuable gifts! Serious inquiries only. ☎1718

SON WANTED

Asian a plus, for fun and friendship, dinners, camping. Bound to have fun, by in shape daddy. ☎1649

GAY MALE

Cute GWM, 34, 7.5" cut, seeks any man who likes to suck and then get f*cked so I can shoot my load. ☎1632

STRAIGHT MALE WANTED

Expert oral service provided regularly by Berkeley GM, 32, for good-looking, masculine, HIV-, straight male, 18-40, with no reciprocation. Your place is preferable. ☎1628

LOOKING FOR YOU

Dark-skinned SBM, 38, 6', 220lbs, moustache, goatee, bald/dark, seeks SM, 25-45, for meeting, getting to know, conversation, movies, dinner, travel, live music. ☎1626

BIM...

is looking to have oral sex or sixty-nine with men that have cocks six inches and bigger, uncut, blacks, or couples a plus. ☎1176

BLACK MALE WANTED

Seeking big, muscular BM, shaved head, for fun and excitement. Interests include movies, museums, working out, music. Me: muscular male, mid 40s. Friendship, possible relationship. ☎1559

SATISFYING MESSAGE...

for women. Sensual massage with complete oral satisfaction the way you like it from an attractive, athletic man with nice body. Massage table. ☎1303

AIM TO PLEASE

Good-looking black male wants good-looking W/H female for passionate encounters. Very oral. No games please! Be discrete, no strings. Coffee or tea? ☎1304

NICE, BUT KINKY

Nice 40's guy, into the kinky side, ISO SF or peninsula woman (30-50, slim to average) who thinks the same. ☎1308

ZIP IT UP

94115, 39, seeks 94109 or 94102, 22-42, for fun. ☎1398

READY FOR YOUR FIRST LESSON?

81M teacher accepting generous new students. Must be M/F couple, novice for role playing, discipline, LTR, HIV-, spiritual form. Hypnotic pleasure. ☎1142

ALL FOR YOU

This male seeks attractive, open-minded female who loves to be spoiled and worshipped. ☎1549

SEXUAL COLLABORATOR SOUGHT

WM, 31, 5'6", attractive, athletic, educated, fun and romantic. Looking for a woman who needs a sex partner but no interest in building a relationship. ☎1567

KINKY COUPLE

Open-minded, discreetly kinky couple willing to perform for your private video needs. Will answer all inquiries. ☎1616

MUTUAL MASTURBATION

SWM, 50, seeks woman any race, for mutual pleasure. No intercourse, give and receive pleasure, safe, satisfying, fun. Be clean and considerate. ☎1307

ATTRACTIVE HARBOODY

SWM, 33, handsome, muscular hardbody, very well-endowed, would like to meet ladies for great sexual encounters. ☎1560

SOUTH SF BI-CURIOUS?

Daytime or late evening until 3am. Prefer white or Latin male, 23-40, in shape. Super discreet. My place ok. All calls answered discreetly. ☎1351

ALL FOR YOU

This male seeks attractive, open-minded female who loves to be spoiled and worshipped. ☎1549

LIFESTYLES CONVENTION

Wanted: a companion to the annual Lifestyles Convention in Las Vegas, July 25-29. I want to check out the lifestyle, (swinging), and my sweetheart is sending me off with her blessings, no strings, no expectations (I love my gal). Three days of great dances, events, parties, costumes. All expenses paid. I am cute as a bug and lots of fun, looking for same. ☎1496

NIPPLE PROUD

woman open to safe and sane mini-erotic relationship, sought by SWM, 51, 6', 175lbs. ☎1494

PICASSO LOVES BASKETBALL BOOTY

Salvage artist, 39, 6', bicyclist's physique, conversationalist, cook, seeks creative, eclectic, round-bottomed woman with all five senses firing to share long rides, culture, mirth, salads! ☎1439

HORNY BLACK MALE...

6', 190lbs, home alone during the week, looking for casual sexual partner. HIV negative, please be same. Live in San Francisco. ☎1438

ZIP IT UP

94115, 39, seeks 94109 or 94102, 22-42, for fun. ☎1398

READY FOR YOUR FIRST LESSON?

81M teacher accepting generous new students. Must be M/F couple, novice for role playing, discipline, LTR, HIV-, spiritual form. Hypnotic pleasure. ☎1142

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BackSeat connections

women seeking women

BUSTY, BIF, 20s...

5'5", 34D-26-36, wants to meet other fit straight or bisexual females, 1B-63, to play with/massage/explore/taste our bodies romantically together. ☎ 1153

I'LL TAKE...

the first one of you home that does something unique. SWF, submissive, seeks SWF, dominant, for play, suck, and penetration. ☎ 1644

SENSUAL NIGHTS

Foxy, bold, passionate Bif seeks sexy Bi/GF for weekly night of sensual delights. Let's cook in the kitchen and the bedroom! Eat, drink, touch, taste. ☎ 1617

BUSTY, SLIM, PRETTY, BI GIRL Bif, 20s, seeks another fit Bif, 1B-55, for soft, romantic, sensual caress, massage and cuddling. ☎ 1217

WHERE ARE THE BEAUTIFUL... bisexuals? Female, 23, 5'9", tall and leggy, seeks a pretty kitty with a lovely smile for wild fun. ☎ 148B

SEEKS OPEN RELATIONSHIP Bif in East Bay, seeks same for casual dating. I am committed to a man, no threesomes or watching, looking to meet a nice lady. ☎ 1451

three's company

THREESOME

SHM, 22, 5'10", 180lbs, seeks two playful females for a good time. East Bay. ☎ 1731

COUPLE SEEKING.....

Secure white couple seeks full-figured woman for pampering times. ☎ 1301

SUMMER FLING

Suburban married white couple, 40s, seeks Bi male, 20s-30s, as a guest in our bed, for safe and uninhibited fun. ☎ 1642

SENSUAL EXPLORATIONS AWAIT YOU

Small group of friends seek other attractive, young, fit couples and single women for a night of laughter and adventure. No fee, no hardcore swingers. ☎ 1150

JUST PLAIN CURIOUS

SHM, 25, seeks females, male/female couples, 25-45, in shape, attractive, for discreet, hot times, fantasy exploration. Please be open-minded, clean, funny, ready to let loose. ☎ 1393

HOT, EROTIC COUPLE WANTED Married WM, 6'1", 180lbs, good-looking, seeks very hot, erotic couple for playtime. Likes include cross-dressing, role-playing, toys, X-rated videos and being your submissive toy. ☎ 1206

ADD TO THE FUN

Nice-looking BM, 40, seeks sex club partner, female/couple. I'm respectful, 6', 235lbs. You: adventurous, open, uninhibited, nice shape, craving sex club experience. ☎ 1568

SENSUAL COUPLE

Healthy, happy, natural male/female couple, living a life of love and adventure, looking for very attractive, sexy, intelligent unique Bif who wants to be adored. ☎ 1565

JUMP IN, THE WATER'S FINE

Sexy white married couple seeks Bi-curious female to help us explore our newly discovered fantasies. Only fun, open-minded, clean, slim respond. ☎ 1500

JOIN US

Attractive, clean, tattooed North Bay white couple, seeks SF for first-time fun. Be 25-35, discreet. Race unimportant. She's 5'4", busty, black/green. He's masculine, 5'8", brown/brown. ☎ 1501

FIRST BI TRY

Athletic, attractive, well-endowed married WM, 36, 140, 5'5", 100% disease free, willing to travel, seeks safe, petite, disease-free couple with BiM, possibly discrete LTR. ☎ 1489

EAST BAY

Fun, attractive white couple, 30s, seeks 3 or 4 guys to entertain us. I want to watch, she wants to play. ☎ 1490

SEEKING HOT BI FEMALE

Sensuous warm couple seeks attractive, fit, busty woman for uninhibited fun. Massage, lingerie, champagne, more. Bi-curious wife. Limits respected. Trade photos, meet for drinks? ☎ 1487

PENINSULA PLAYFUL COUPLE

Bright, energetic couple seeks new friends, single or couple. We're 40s, non-smoking, non-drinking, like spa, massage, boating and oral delights. Passion and friendship a plus. ☎ 1259

MARRIED/BI MALE A+

Very attractive male couple, mid 30s, HIV-, fit, healthy/slim GAM, athletic GWM, seek handsome, masculine, clean, fit, healthy, well-built, hung W/BM for discreet safe encounters. ☎ 1444

sfbg Backseat

ADVENTUROUS LADIES WANTED

Two gentle, respectful white males seeking women who want two at once. 36 and 34, 5'11", 180, and 210. Must be healthy, fun and uninhibited. ☎ 1407

MALES WANTED...

for gang bangs and adult videos. Straight only. Strict requirements: 1. reliability, no flakes. 2. must appreciate women of all sizes, ages (over 18). ☎ 1400

STUO MUFFIN?

Oral bi couple, in shape, seeks well-built male, 35-55, for hot threesomes. Play with us! LTR. ☎ 1394

SWEET & HORNY

Cute, petite AF and handsome WM consort ready for first-time mating with another female/couples. We're a committed, middle-aged couple ready for mating with others. ☎ 1306

BOUND FOR OUR PLEASURE

Young, sexy, adventurous couple seeks similar man/woman/couple for kinky birthday present. She's tied, blindfolded, you enter unexpectedly and help use and pleasure her. ☎ 1300

SEEKING FEMMES

Male executive, 40s, seeks two Bi femme friends for passionate encounters. Bring your lovely bodies and positive attitudes, and we will have great fun. ☎ 1353

tv/ts

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

SWM, 27, 6'2", shaved head, goatee, seeks pretty, pre-operative TS for hot weekends of kinky role playing fun. ☎ 1723

VERY AFFECTIONATE

29 year old TS seeks M/F couples who are very dominant. Into swing parties and other cultures. Please call. ☎ 1452

TV LADY WANTED

Easygoing SWM, 6'1", 185lbs, is seeking an interesting, intelligent, TV lady for possible LTR. ☎ 1450

SEEKING ASIAN OR LATIN TS

Very open, easygoing, wild, fit, athletic WM, 37, 5'9", 160. Call me. Be sexy and passable. ☎ 1445

TV FUN IN MARIN

Hot, sexy, sheer panties, garters, nylons, high heels, loves to please. Oral, Greek, car dates, in discrete places ok. Clean, healthy, discrete only. ☎ 1404

bd/sm

GIVES HARO SPANKINGS

Mature WM, 59, gives long, hard, intense spankings to bad, little, full-figured, mature girls for my pleasure. Call me now. Do it now. Now. ☎ 1397

BEAUTIFUL ENGLISH OMINA-TRIX

Haughty, leggy, aristocratic blonde relocated to Sonoma County seeks obedient fetishists, sissies and masochists to amuse and entertain Me. A tribute is, of course, expected. ☎ 1719

TIGHT, RESTRICTIVE BONDAGE

Athletic BIAM submissive seeks dominant woman or couple to tie me up and use me for their pleasure. Role playing, toys, discipline. ☎ 1646

NAUGHTY GIRLS ONLY

Male and female, 20s, interviewing hot, submissive women for role-playing and kinky sex. Only sexually secure women need apply. ☎ 1682

NAUGHTY GIRLS WELCOMED

Tall, blonde dominant seeks slutty submissive to tempt and tease. Specialist in discipline will push envelope to teetering edge and maybe beyond. ☎ 1498

TAKE A HIT

SWM, 30s, seeks a woman who likes to be spanked, any time, any day, serious only. N/Drugs. ☎ 1550

BONDAGE, LAUGHTER...

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MENT** FILE NO. 249599 The following
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1045 Mission Street, # 336, San
Francisco, CA 94103: Evan Ned
Kaminsky, 1045 Mission Street, #
336, San Francisco, CA 94103. This
business is conducted by an individ-
ual. Registrant commenced business
under the above fictitious business
name on the date January 1, 2001.
Signed Evan Kaminsky. This state-
ment was filed with the County Clerk
of the City and County of San Fran-
cisco, CA by Jennifer Lynn Venegas,
on June 14, 2001. July 4, 11, 18,
25, 2001. L# 354003

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATE-
MENT** FILE NO. 248394 The following
person is doing business as AZTEC SE-
CURITY SERVICES, 860 Innes Ave-
nue, San Francisco, CA 94124: Full
name of Registrant #1: WAROS
BUILDING MAINTENANCE, INC. (DBA-
CA), 860 Innes Avenue, San Fran-
cisco, CA 94124. This business is
conducted by a corporation. Signed
Terrell R. Ward, Pres. This statement
was filed with the County Clerk of
the City and County of San Francisco,
CA by Keith Wong, on April 25, 2001.
July 11, 18, 25, Aug 1, 2001. L#
354101

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATE-
MENT** FILE NO. 250076 The following
person is doing business as RUBI-
CON REPROGRAPHICS, 425 Bush
Street, #427, San Francisco, CA
94108: ANOATHA INTERNATIONAL
INC., 425 Bush Street, #427, San
Francisco, CA 94108. This business
is conducted by a corporation. Signed
Michael J. Cataldo, Anotha Interna-
tional Inc. CEO. This statement was
filed with the County Clerk of the City
and County of San Francisco, CA by
Jennifer Lynn Venegas, on July 6,
2001. July 18, 25, August 1, B,
2001. L# 354204

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATE-
MENT** FILE NO. 250239 The following
person is doing business as RJ'S
MARKET @ LEVI PLAZA, 1425 San-
some St., San Francisco, CA 94111:
RJ PESSURF INC., 98 Howard St.,
San Francisco, CA 94105. This business
is conducted by a corporation. Signed
RJ Pessurf, Redovan Pessurf Presi-
dent. This statement was filed with
the County Clerk of the City and Coun-
ty of San Francisco, CA by Kit Chau,
on July 13, 2001. July 18, 25, Au-
gust 1, B, 2001. L# 354205

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATE-
MENT** FILE NO. 250216 The following per-
sons are doing business as AUS-
TRALIAN MOVING & STORAGE, 1225-
D Northpoint Drive, San Francisco, CA
94130: Mark Brinkman, 1225-D
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menced business under the above fic-
titious business name on the date
July 12, 2001. Signed M. Brinkman.
This statement was filed with the
County Clerk of the City and County of
San Francisco, by Kit Chau, on July
12, 2001. July 18, 25, August 1, B,
2001. L# 354206

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATE-
MENT** FILE NO. 250342 The following
person is doing business as INDUS-
TRIAL ASYLUM, 3456 18th Street,
San Francisco, CA 94110: Bashiri Je
Jones, 3456 18th Street, San Fran-
cisco, CA 94110. This business is
conducted by an individual. Registr-
tant commenced business under the
above fictitious business name on
the date, July 18, 2001. Signed
Bashiri Jones. This statement was
filed with the County Clerk of the City
and County of San Francisco, CA by
Keith Wong, on July 18, 2001. July
25, August 1, B, 15, 2001. L#
354302

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATE-
MENT** FILE NO. 250208 The following
person is doing business as GIRL-
ILLA PRODUCTIONS, 2439 Post St.,
San Francisco, CA 94115: Janaya J.
Casey 2439 Post St., San Francisco,
CA 94115. This business is con-
ducted by an individual. Registrant
commenced business under the
above fictitious business name on
the date July 12, 2001. Signed
Janaya Casey. This statement was
filed with the County Clerk of the City
and County of San Francisco, CA by
Kit Chau, on July 12, 2001. July 25,
August 1, B, 15, 2001. L# 354301

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATE-
MENT** FILE NO. 305819 FICTITIOUS
BUSINESS NAME: GAUGE DESIGN,
5482 Taft Ave., Oakland, CA 94618.
Full Name & Address of Owner: Nick
Cawthon, 5482 Taft Ave., Oakland, CA
94618. This business is conducted
by an individual. Registrant has not
yet begun to transact business under
the fictitious business name. Signed
Nick Cawthon. This statement was
filed with the County Clerk of the City
and County of Alameda, CA by Patrick
O'Connell, on June 19, 2001. July
25, August 1, B, 15, 2001. L#
354304

BAY GUARDIAN COMMUNITY ALERT FOCUS OF THE WEEK

Not Down With the Lockdown!

Saturday, July 28, Youth Force Coalition and Books Not Bars hold
"Not Down With the Lockdown: Summer Jam to Stop the Super-
Jail," a rally and concert to halt Alameda County's plans to build the
largest per capita juvenile hall in the country. Acts include live music,
performance, and spoken word by Company of Prophets,
Renaissance, Aya de Leün, Ground Effects breaking crew, Youth
Speaks, DJ Fuze, and more. **Noon-3 p.m., Frank Ogawa Plaza,**
14th and Broadway St., Oakl. Free. (415) 951-4844 ext. 27.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 249802 The following person is doing business as GIBBONS PAINTING, 546 Clement Street, San Francisco, CA 94118; Alan James Gibbons, 546 Clement Street, San Francisco, CA 94118. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date May 31, 2001. Signed Alan James Gibbons. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Kit Chau, on June 25, 2001. July 25, August 1, B, 15, 2001. L# 354305

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 250296 The following person is doing business as ART LIGHT WINDLE GALLERY, 553 27th, # 104, San Francisco, CA 94121; James Windle, 553 27th, # 104, San Francisco, CA 94121. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date July 1, 2001. Signed Miranda Windle. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Gerardo Romo, on July 17, 2001. July 25, August 1, B, 15, 2001. L# 354306

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 249766 The following person is doing business as MIKKA STUDIO, 317 Harriet Street #22, San Francisco, CA 94103; Bruce J. Neumeler, 317 Harriet Street #22, San Francisco, CA 94103. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Bruce J. Neumeler. NOTICE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES ON JUNE 22, 2006. FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Magdalena Zavalos on June 22, 2001. July 4, 11, 15, 25, 2001. L# 254002

FILE # 249774 STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: AUSTRALIAN MOVING & STORAGE, Located at: 1225-D Northpoint Dr., San Francisco, CA 94130. The fictitious business name referred to was filed in the County of San Francisco on: JUNE 22, 2001. NAME AND ADDRESS OF REGISTRANTS: Mark Brinkman, 1225-D Northpoint Dr., San Francisco, CA 94130; Jennifer Brinkman, 1225-D Northpoint Dr., San Francisco, CA 94130. This business was conducted by a general partnership, signed Mark Brinkman. Dated: July 12, 2001. July 25, August 1, B, 2001. L# 354207

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 322384 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. PETITION OF AQUATA CARETTA DAVIS TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: AQUATA CARETTA DAVIS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: present name AQUATA CARETTA DAVIS, proposed name KHADIJAH DAVIS ELASSALI. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: August 27, 2001 Time: 9:00 AM Department 218. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: The San Francisco Bay Guardian. Dated June 25, 2001. Ronald E. Quidachay, Judge of said Superior Court. July 11, 15, 25, 2001. L# 354005

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 320933 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. PETITION OF CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: present name CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON, proposed name CAITY ALANAH MCPHERSON. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: August 30, 2001 Time: 9:00 AM Department 218. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: The San Francisco Bay Guardian. Dated June 28, 2001. Ronald E. Quidachay, Judge of said Superior Court. July 18, 25, August 1, 2001. L# 354103

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 320933 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. PETITION OF CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: present name CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON, proposed name CAITY ALANAH MCPHERSON. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: August 30, 2001 Time: 9:00 AM Department 218. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: The San Francisco Bay Guardian. Dated June 28, 2001. Ronald E. Quidachay, Judge of said Superior Court. July 18, 25, August 1, 2001. L# 354103

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 322436 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. PETITION OF DIANA MOMIJE MUELLER, ROBERT SCOTT MUELLER FOR CHANGE OF NAME. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: DIANA MOMIJE MUELLER & ROBERT SCOTT MUELLER filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: present name JOSEF SAKAKI GILBERT-MUELLER, proposed name JOSEF SAKAKI MUELLER. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: August 30, 2001 Time: 9:00 AM Department 218. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: The San Francisco Bay Guardian. Dated June 27, 2001. Ronald E. Quidachay, Judge of said Superior Court. July 18, 25, August 1, B, 2001. L# 354201

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 322558 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. PETITION OF RITA E. PEDRO TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: RITA E. PEDRO filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: present name RITA E. PEDRO, proposed name FIA MAMATA LEELEA. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: September 10, 2001 Time: 9:00 AM Department 218. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: The San Francisco Bay Guardian. Dated July 1, 2001. Ronald E. Quidachay, Judge of said Superior Court. July 11, 15, 25, Aug. 1, 2001. L# 354202

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 322849 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. PETITION OF MARICRIS MIRANDA GALANG TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: MARICRIS MIRANDA GALANG filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: present name MARICRIS MIRANDA GALANG, proposed name KRIS MIRANDA. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: September 11, 2001 Time: 9:00 AM Department 218. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: The San Francisco Bay Guardian. Dated July 12, 2001. Ronald E. Quidachay, Judge of said Superior Court. July 18, 25, August 1, B, 2001. L# 354203

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 320933 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. PETITION OF CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: present name CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON, proposed name CAITY ALANAH MCPHERSON. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: August 30, 2001 Time: 9:00 AM Department 218. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: The San Francisco Bay Guardian. Dated June 28, 2001. Ronald E. Quidachay, Judge of said Superior Court. July 18, 25, August 1, 2001. L# 354103

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 320933 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. PETITION OF CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: present name CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON, proposed name CAITY ALANAH MCPHERSON. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: August 30, 2001 Time: 9:00 AM Department 218. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: The San Francisco Bay Guardian. Dated June 28, 2001. Ronald E. Quidachay, Judge of said Superior Court. July 18, 25, August 1, 2001. L# 354103

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME NO. 320933 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. PETITION OF CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: present name CATLIN ALANAH MCPHERSON, proposed name CAITY ALANAH MCPHERSON. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: August 30, 2001 Time: 9:00 AM Department 218. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: The San Francisco Bay Guardian. Dated June 28, 2001. Ronald E. Quidachay, Judge of said Superior Court. July 18, 25, August 1, 2001. L# 354103

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\$1000 MARINA/COW HOLLOW (Union & Fillmore) to share with 42yo SM and two others. Deck/H/W Floors-utilities Included. (#29730) — We have over 600 rooms in San Francisco! Place your room ad with us for FREE. RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

\$1000 NORTH BEACH/TELEGRAPH HILL (Fillmore & Mason) to share with 29yo SM. Deck/D/W/W/D-I travel & lot, keep the place clean, an outdoorsy, watch sports on TV, and am very laid back. (29790) We have over 600 rooms in San Francisco! Place your room ad with us for FREE. RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

\$1030 COLE VALLEY (Parnassus & Schrader) to share with 27yo SF. Deck, yard, D/W, W/D, F/P. (#29711) — We have over 600 rooms in San Francisco! Place your room ad with us for FREE. RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

\$1050 NO8 Hill (Jones & Jackson) to share with 25 year old SM. W/D, I'm 25, grew up here in the Bay Area, and after college down in LA have returned to the city, working for an investment bank, having a blast. I am looking for a roommate who is in their mid-20s, who enjoys living in the city (#29746) — We have over 600 rooms in San Francisco! Place your room ad with us for FREE — RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

\$1300 RUSSIAN HILL (Filbert & Polk) to share with 35yo SF. H/W Floors Parking. D/W/W/D-F/P. (#29704) — We have over 600 rooms in San Francisco! Place your room ad with us for FREE — RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

\$1500 LOWER HAIGHT room, dishwasher, deck, view of city lights, hardwood 100's available. www.metrorent.com (415) 563-7368.

\$400 CASTRO/EUREKA VALLEY (15th St & Noe) to share with 30yo BIM. Deck, Yard, H/W Floors, Parking, D/W, F/P. Refers to the home will gradually be finished by the occupants. (#29698) We have over 600 rooms in San Francisco! Place your room ad with us for FREE — RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

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\$600 Noe Valley Female ONLY nonsmoker, no pets, W/D, view, private phone. \$770 deposit. (415) 505-7174.

\$600 Northbeach - room includes car, 4 MUNI line close. Security deposit required. Utilities to be determined, furnished optional. (415) 776-8795.

\$600 POTRERO HILL (Alabama & 24th Street) to share with 21yo SM and 2 others. Deck- H/W floors- D/W/F/P. Another room available for \$550/mo. with a deposit of \$500. (29731) — We have over 600 rooms in San Francisco! Place your room ad with us for FREE (#29593) — RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

\$600 PRESIDIO HEIGHTS room, dishwasher, carpet 100's available. www.metrorent.com (415) 563-7368.

\$625 Daly City Share sunny 2 Bedroom house. Walk-in closet, private phone line, storage. Pets ok. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref # 1563

\$625 Ingleside Terrace Quiet, charming room with private entrance and redwood deck, cooking area, private phone line. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref #1563

\$650 Hayes Valley/ Lower Haight (Hakes at Laguna). Small sunny room in 4 bedroom / 2 bath Victorian house near public transit. (415) 558-8588.

\$650 NORTH BEACH/TELEGRAPH HILL (Stockton & Filbert) to share with 29yo GM and 3 others. Deck-I'm traveling and my other roommates are Japanese one guy and one girl (#29763) — We have over 600 rooms in San Francisco! — Place your room ad with us for FREE! RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

\$650 Richmond District. Sunny room on upper floor of charming flat. Share kitchen/ bath & utilities. Non-smoking (415) 221-1851.

\$650 Sunset Gay Couple seeking responsible person. Close to MUNI on Taraval. By 9/1 No Smoking. No Drugs. (415) 661-2567.

\$650 UPPER HAIGHT room, deck, dishwasher, hardwood floors! 100's available. www.metrorent.com (415) 563-7368.

\$667. Room in Bernal Heights house. View, fireplace, carpet, garage, storage, yard, washer/dryer; dog ok Ref #6498. The Original San Francisco Roommate Referral Service. www.RoommateLink.com, (415) 626-0606.

\$675 Lower Pacific Heights - Female Musician/ Composer seeks other whimsical, dedicated, 30+, Very Focused, passionate, confident writers/ artists. (415) 775-9607.

\$700 Pacific Heights (Jackson and Fillmore) Charming room with walk-in closet in huge Victorian flat. Large kitchen, DR, LR, hwd floors. Live with friendly, easy-going working professionals. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref # 1736

\$700. Room with hardwood floors in Mission District flat Huge basement, storage, yard, pets ok; near transit. Ref #6389. The Original San Francisco Roommate Referral Service. www.RoommateLink.com, (415) 626-0606.

\$750 plus util, Sunset-Medium large room. Close to SFSU and beach. Near Muni. N/S, N/D. International household. Garden View. W/D. Available Aug 15 (415) 235-4332

\$750 Sunset shr 4br/ 2ba w/ outrageously hairy couple. Long thin arms, fearless nature & plumbing experience a plus. Throw away your plunger. Try www.easyyroommate.com. (800) 877-2557.

\$795 Near SFSU includes utilities - Share 2 bedroom, 1 bath two-level garden villa w/ 1 female. Prefer mature Male/ Female (415) 334-1142.

\$800 Upper Market (Market and Clayton) Bright sunny room with private bathroom, own phone line, walk-in closet, laundry, patio and garden. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref # 1618

\$825-\$1000 Nob Hill (Leavenworth at Jackson). Gorgeous rooms in charming 5 bedroom/ 3 bath home near downtown, shops, trans. (415) 845-8588.

\$825 Golden Gate & Fillmore Female to share 2 bedroom available Aug 1. Cats DK, laundry, view, near MUNI. Call (415) 931-1416.

\$825. Sunny room with view in Western Addition Apartment. Private telephone, cable, Internet, children and pets ok. Near transit, restaurants, jazz club, and more. Ref#6375 200 more! The Original San Francisco Roommate Referral Service. www.RoommateLink.com, (415) 626-0606.

\$850 MISSION room, yard, dish- washer, nice view, hardwood floors! 100's available. www.metrorent.com (415) 563-7368.

\$850 PRESIDIO room in a town- house, private parking space, yard, dishwasher, open view! 100's available. www.metrorent.com (415) 563-7368.

\$850. Spacious room with view in Sunset District Apartment. Sunny, hardwood floors, storage, garage, off street parking; cats ok; near transit, laundromat, shops and beach. Ref#6601 The Original San Francisco Roommate Referral Service. www.RoommateLink.com, (415) 626-0606.

\$867 OUTER RICHMOND room, dishwasher, ocean view! 100's available. www.metrorent.com (415) 563-7368.

\$900 CASTRO/EUREKA VALLEY (Castro & 19th St) to share with 25yo SM and 2 others. Deck- yard/ H/W floors- parking W/D (#29712) — We have over 600 rooms in San Francisco! Place your room ad with us for FREE. RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

\$900 COLE VALLEYroom, dish- washer, carpet 100's available. www.metrorent.com (415) 563-7368.

\$900 Nob Hill 2 br Hopelessly un- stable F seeks sisterly roommate to comfort me during crying fits. Please call, Don't be someone's shrink. Try www.easyyroommate.com. (800) 877-2557

\$900 Outer Richmond 5 minutes to beach, park. Steps to muni. Share house with female and cat. Fireplace, dishwasher, w/d and wood/carpet. Your bedroom: phone line, shelving, futon, dresser. Female only. (415) 387-7518.

\$925 Excelsior - Share w/ gay male. Modern, spacious 2 bedroom, w/d, patio, City College, MUNI, BART. No Smoking/ Drugs. (415) 587-6897.

\$925 Pacific Heights large room in large Apartment, clean 3 br, 2 bath, patio, hardwood floors, available now. (415) 567-8890.

\$950 SUNSET room, patio, ocean view, carpet 100's available. www.metrorent.com (415) 563-7368.

\$969 SOMA 3 br shr. Wacko seeks roommate for me and nice Bobo. Must like chicken. Bobo no want roommate. Bobo kill roommate. Bad Bobo. Don't end w/ a nutball. Try www.easyyroommate.com. (800) 877-2557.

\$989 NOE VALLEY Clipper & Noe, to share with 2Bys SF and 4 others. Deck, yard, D/W, W/D, Nice, young and busy professionals-three girls and one guy (#29767). We have over 600 rooms in San Francisco! Place your room ad with us for FREE. RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

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\$1000 North Beach (Columbus and Greenwich) Absolutely charming Victorian 1 Bedroom, very sunny and cute with remodeled kitchen, dishwasher, gas stove, cat ok. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref # 1320

\$1050 Nob Hill Charming Studio with new carpet, new paint, elegant moldings, lots of sunlight, walk-in closets and DSL. Cat ok. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref #1450

\$1075 Sunset Sunny 1 Bedroom with carpet, mini blinds, new paint. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref #1633

\$1095 Pacific Heights Very clean Studio with new carpet and paint. Gas stove, walk-in closet, laundry. Parking available. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref #1036

\$1100 PACIFIC HEIGHTS Studio, nice view, hardwood floors! 1000's available. www.metrorent.com (415) 563-7368.

\$1100 SOUTH OF MARKET 1 BR....Cell for appointment. (#52798) Free preview with photos at www.renttech.com — We have over 2300 rooms in San Francisco (40% more than ANY other SF source!) and Landlords always list for free! RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

\$1200 Lower Nob Hill Remodeled Studio with gas stove and walk-in closet, laundry. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref # 10786.

\$1200 Nob Hill (Jackson and Larkin) Bright spacious Studio with hwd floors, large kitchen, gas stove, walk-in closet. Yard and laundry. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref # 1361

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\$1000 North Beach (Columbus and Greenwich) Absolutely charming Victorian 1 Bedroom, very sunny and cute with remodeled kitchen, dishwasher, gas stove, cat ok. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref # 1320

\$1050 Nob Hill Charming Studio with new carpet, new paint, elegant moldings, lots of sunlight, walk-in closets and DSL. Cat ok. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref #1450

\$1075 Sunset Sunny 1 Bedroom with carpet, mini blinds, new paint. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref #1633

\$1095 Pacific Heights Very clean Studio with new carpet and paint. Gas stove, walk-in closet, laundry. Parking available. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref #1036

\$1100 PACIFIC HEIGHTS Studio, nice view, hardwood floors! 1000's available. www.metrorent.com (415) 563-7368.

\$1100 SOUTH OF MARKET 1 BR....Cell for appointment. (#52798) Free preview with photos at www.renttech.com — We have over 2300 rooms in San Francisco (40% more than ANY other SF source!) and Landlords always list for free! RENT TECH 863-7368 or www.renttech.com. Fee/Guarantee.

\$1200 Lower Nob Hill Remodeled Studio with gas stove and walk-in closet, laundry. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref # 10786.

\$1200 Nob Hill (Jackson and Larkin) Bright spacious Studio with hwd floors, large kitchen, gas stove, walk-in closet. Yard and laundry. www.apartmentdaddy.com Ref # 1361

Roommates listings - Dnline! Free to list, search and contact. http://GD.RDDMFIND.COM/ (AAN CAN)

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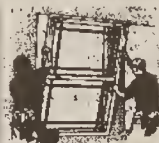
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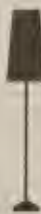
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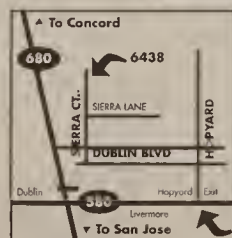
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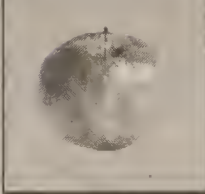


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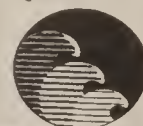
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To learn more about the NLP and to receive an application, please call Marla Kolman, Program Director at (415) 957-1551 ext. 109. Applications are due by August 10, 2001.

GOT TIME?

To make a difference in your community

Why not become a volunteer
for the California HIV/AIDS

HOTLINE

Our next training will be the first weekend in August, 2001

For further information
please contact Sergio at

415.487.8014

ATTENTION HIRING MANAGERS

We are an unique employment service that offers innovative solutions to staffing issues. Entry level to professional positions. If you are hiring at your company, please call for details.

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The Management Center, a SF-based, nonprofit
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Spend your nights SAVING THE EARTH!

The California League of Conservation Voters (CLCV)
is seeking fundraisers for the twenty-person membership team.
Flexible, part-time evening hours, excellent pay
and benefits in a diverse, casual workplace.

CALL RICO 510-271-0900 x 304.

Students, seniors and people
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Club One Fitness

Club One, a leader and innovator in the fitness industry, is seeking a dynamic individual for the following position:

Full-Service Hairstylist in our Yerba Buena location Hair Salon

The ideal candidate will be professional, enthusiastic in providing excellent technical work in hair cutting and coloring. FT or PT hours.

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Fax resumes indicating position of interest to: (415) 477-3001 or careers@ClubOne.com

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We are seeking positive, confident and well groomed candidates for the following positions:

- Asst. Front Office Manager
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- PBX Operators
- Concierge
- Housekeeping Runners
- Housekeeping Desk Attendants
- Hskp. Floor Supervisors
- Hskp. Night Cleaners
- Uniform Attendants
- Security Agents
- Security Agent (graveyard)
- Night Bellperson
- Banquet Bartender
- Banquet Houseperson
- Assoc. Banquet Manager

Please fax resumes to HR Dept.
(415) 921-7768 or submit resumes to:
420 Mason Street,
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone (415) 929-2310 EOE

sfbg | Careers

Business Opportunities

\$500-\$1,000 weekly potential PT/FT. Data Entry Medical Claims Processor. Full training and support by #1 rated company. Computer required. 1-877-777-4608 www.eMedClaims.org (AAN CAN)

BEST ROUTE. Up to \$4,600/month (realistic). 20 local vending sites. No competition - 6 hours/month. \$15,000 investment required. 1-800-268-6601 (24 hours). (CAL*SCAN)

BEST ROUTE. Up to \$4,600/month (realistic). 20 local vending sites. No competition - 6 hours/month. \$15,000 investment required. 1-800-268-6601 (24 hours). (CAL*SCAN)

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Learn how to save up to \$100,000 on your mortgage payments. Order your course today. Send \$15 Cash/Money order only to: Palm Beach Inc. 60-26 69th Ave., Ridgewood NY, 11385. Allow 1-2 weeks delivery. All Sales Final. Title your order "Mortgage Payments".

Your Classified Ad printed in more than 100 alternative papers like this one for just \$1,150.00! To run your ad in papers with a total circulation exceeding 6.9 million copies per week, call 415-255-7600 and ask about the Association of Alternative Newsweeklies. No adult ads. (AAN CAN)

Modeling / Casting Calls

Amateur models wanted for retro pinup photo shoot. Sunday August 5. Call retromynx.com (707) 789-9853.

Models Needed. Photo artist seeks female models 18+ for photo essays. No experience necessary. TFP or hourly pay. Email info and/or photo to: fotonata@yahoo.com.

Open casting on July 27th and 29th.

Blue Lightning Productions is auditioning for its first Interactive Internet TV show. All types of actors are needed. Be part of this exciting new media opportunity. www.pcl87.tv or www.pcl87.com to audition.

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\$1,500 a month PT - \$4,500-\$7,200 FT WORK IN HOME International company needs Supervisors & Assistants. Training. Free booklet: 800-934-2205 / SomeDayHasCome.com

Caffe Sociale Come join SF's newest Piazza style Italian Cafe and Wine Bar. Now hiring an ambitious Sous Chef, experienced Wait Staff, Line Cooks and Dishwashers. Strong existing client base and great career exposure in Presidio Heights neighborhood. Top benefits, salaries and flex. schedules. Fax resume to: 415 921 3186 OR call 415 921 3200 Email: davidn@caffesociale.com

Healthy Start Coordinator Oenman MS, SFUSD seeking dynamic individual to oversee 100k budget, coordinate student services and parent/community outreach. Need strong interpersonal and administrative skills/ experience. MSW, bilingual preferred. 40k+ salary. Fax resume, attention: A. Adams (415) 585-8402

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Experienced in residential cleaning. English speaking. Must want to work. Call (415) 441-9600. EURO Housekeeping

THE ARGENT HOTEL SAN FRANCISCO

A luxury, 4 Diamond property located, near Yerba Buena Gardens, the Moscone Center and BART/MUNI lines, is seeking qualified individuals to fill the following positions:

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Place a recruitment ad To advertise your available positions, call the Bay Guardian classified department at (415) 255-7600. Account Executives are available Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Fax advertisements to (415) 621-2016 or e-mail to classifieds@sfbg.com. San Francisco Bay Guardian Classifieds, 520 Hampshire, San Francisco, CA 94110.

SPECIALTY PRODUCTS REP 5 yr old rep group of cards, gifts and adult video seeks independent Sales Representatives. Large existing base w/ great growth potential. Realistic income 35-50k. Fax resume to: (877) 349-8228.

Young person with possible design potential, trainable for retail sales, in lighting fixtures, antiques, wallpaper, fabrics, lamps and shades. Must have appearance and potential. Oakes Interiors/ Lite House. 342 West Portal Ave (415) 665-9200 Tues. - Sat. 9am-5:30pm.



Cable Car Coffee Cafe next to the SF Powell BART Station. P/T pm. position. Approximately 30 hrs weekly. Coffee or restaurant experience preferred. A positive & energetic personality a must!! CALL CHRIS (415) 458-8663.

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ACTIVISM

CA Peace Action Activist organize to put more money into education and housing, not weapons. California Peace Action is the state's largest peace and social justice organization. FT with full benefits, PT up to \$17/hr. Call Jon or Kelly, (510) 849-2272.



ACTIVISM

Forests Forever Activists, Organizers & Forest Defenders are needed to join our team and work to save CA's forests, watersheds and wildlife areas. P/T and F/T permanent positions. \$600/wk with Bonuses plus Benefits including health insurance. (415) 974-3636. www.forestsforever.org



Converse's basketball, cross-training, and casual shoes are sold under the Chuck Taylor Converse All-Star brand. Named after Chuck Taylor, the first athletic shoe endorser in 1923, the shoes honor his contribution to basketball.

ACTIVISM

Oakland ACORN Organizers Fight For Justice Help empower low-income communities through grassroots political action. People of color, bilingual persons encouraged. Call Tara, (510) 436-5690. www.acorn.org.



ACTIVISM

Spend Your Nights Saving the Earth!

The California League of Conservation Voters (CLCV) is seeking funders for the twenty-person membership team. Flexible part-time evening hours, excellent pay & benefits in a diverse, casual workplace. ONLY SECONOS FROM 8ART. Call Rico or Scott @ (510) 271-0900 x 304. Students, seniors & people of color are encouraged to apply. www.ecovote.org

Corporate Legal Secretary

This firm is listed as a top firm representing Entrepreneur's. Position requires a professional individual with strong corporate legal background and excellent word processing skills. Ideal candidate must have excellent written and verbal communication skills, enjoy working independently and as a team member. Experience with MS Word for windows, excellent typing skills and three years legal experience. Position pays to 60K Contact Strategic Staffing, (415) 616-6300, fax: (415) 616-6306 or email your resume to jobs@strategic-staffing.com.

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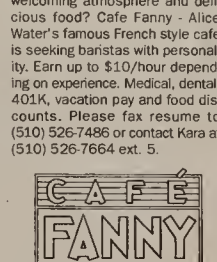
Growing art supply and retail chain seeks Managers and Cashier/Sales for FT and PT positions with benefits in SF, Berkeley and Oakland. Fax resume to (415) 441-6085, attn: Keelie. Management inquiries fax (323) 933-9794 or dorian@artstores.com.



Real Supplies. Real Artists.

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CAFE FANNY Are you looking for a job that is fast-paced and enjoyable with a welcoming atmosphere and delicious food? Cafe Fanny - Alice Water's famous French style cafe is seeking baristas with personality. Earn up to \$10/hour depending on experience. Medical, dental, 401K, vacation pay and food discounts. Please fax resume to (510) 526-7486 or contact Kara at (510) 526-7664 ext. 5.



In Monaco, 10.8% of the population was aged 75 and over in 1995.

The oldest international human rights organization still in existence today is the UK-based Anti-Slavery, founded in 1839 as the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society (BFASS).

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Now Hiring Games Testers

F/T Immediate Openings. Nelson has partnered with Sony Computer Entertainment America to recruit top quality Games Testers.

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- * At least 18 years old
- * Game testing experience a plus.

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DRIVERS: ALLIED Van Lines has openings in electronics and trade shows. Class A COL with 1 year o/t/r experience. Tractor purchase available. Call 800-634-2200, Dept. ACAS. (CAL*SCAN)

DRIVERS Hiring Drivers *Free training Class A CDL. Inquire about: *20 days on/10 days off. *Tuition reimbursement *Immediate benefits. Must be age 21. Call: 1-888-810-2778 CRST. EOE (CAL*SCAN)

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DRIVER LEADERS WANTED. Global communications co. expanding in CA area. Seeking those with sales, teaching or business ownership experience. Call 888-888-4883 ext. 5048. (CAL*SCAN)

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Now hiring energetic people. Part-Time package handlers \$8.85-\$9.85/hour. Chose a shift that works for you. 3:30am-8:30am, 5pm-10pm, (11am-4pm SSF only) Plus up to \$2000 in tuition reimbursement offered! Call UPS to schedule an interview. 1-877-501-9350 (SF Area)

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We offer full-time employees:
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DRIVERS Must be able to lift 50 lbs. Current driver's license, and clean DMV record needed.

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Hourly & Commission Plus up to \$50/month for maintenance & repair of bike. Full Time 10:00am Start Time. Please contact Alex Today: Phone: 1-888-277-6637, Ext. 278. Fax: (415) 206-7399. Email: Alex@promess.com.

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Year round infant and preschool programs looking for creative energetic teachers and aids. Full time excellent pay and benefits. (12 ECE units required) Part Time excellent pay, flexible. A.M. and P.M. hours available. If interested in working in high quality program contact: Susan Sawyer (408) 867-4683.

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Teach classes, Bay Area Cities, \$10/hr. (800) 241-3953.

Ashrita Furman of Jamaica, New York, USA, set a pogo stick distance record of 37.18 km. (23.11 miles) in 12 hr. 27 min. on June 22, 1997.

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T.V. Show (multi-award winning) needs talent. Actors, Dancers, Singers, Musicians, Writers, Editors, Entertainers of All kinds. 8e seen my millions. (415) 381-4275.

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GENERAL

F/T-PT Help Wanted Golden Gate Sport and Social Club Hiring Management and league coordinators. Call (415) 921-1161 and ask for Dane, or go to www.ggsportandsocialclub.com for more info.

GENERAL Growing Business Needs Help! Work from home. Mail-order/ E-commerce \$522+/wk P/T \$1000-\$4000/ wk F/T www.gettomorrow.com. 800-284-2081.

GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS TRAINING. Open field w/paid training & guaranteed placement. Motivated H.S. Grads w/ability to relocate. Age 17-34. 1-800-345-6289. (CAL*SCAN)

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GENERAL

TAKE OFF at SFO! Let your career take off at SFO. Visit the Airport's Employment Information Center to land a new career in: Administrative, Baggage, Customer Service, Custodial, Driving, Food Service, Management, Mechanical, Retail and Security. Apply for 10 jobs with one application. Call 650-821-5245 for more information.

GENERAL Wilderness Camp Counselor Sleep under the stars. Hike the Appalachian Trail. Canoe the Suwannee. Help at-risk youth. Paid Training. Free room/board. Clothing allowance. Excellent salary/benefits. Details/ application: www.ckerd.org. Send resumes: Selection Specialist/AN, Eckerd Youth Alternatives, P.O. Box 7450, Clearwater, FL 33765. EOE. (AAN CAN)

The oldest international human rights organization still in existence today is the UK-based Anti-Slavery, founded in 1839 as the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society (BFASS).

REAL FOOD COMPANY

Join our dynamic team and learn about healthy foods. Real Food Company, natural gourmet food stores has positions available. Real food offers good benefits and warm and committed working environment. Call or stop in. (415) 550-1001



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Call today (415) 739-4433

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HEALTH FOOD SHOPPING or slow careful cleaning for sensitive disabled Jewish Feminist. 1-3 days. (510) 841-5091.

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MASSAGE NEEDED by handicapped adult at his S.F. home. \$30. per hr. Please call (415) 563-5533.

Project Manager - Web Publishing

Non-Profit Healthcare HIV Support Consulting firm is looking for a dynamic candidate to join this friendly and exciting team. You will be the liaison between the technical and creative teams. If you're interested in a career in Communications in a great working environment that's not in the financial district with sunny patios then check this out. Please either have a background in Healthcare, Consulting with strong writing and graphics skills. 50K Contact Strategic Staffing, (415) 616-6300, fax: (415) 616-6306 or email your resume to jobs@strategic-staffing.com.

PUBLISHING

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The San Francisco Bay Guardian, the Bay Area's biggest, hippest newsweekly, offers writing internships for aspiring journalists. The Guardian internship is a great way to gain experience, and clips, at one of the nation's foremost alternative papers. The four-month program is unpaid and requires a commitment of two days each week. Log on to www.sfbg.com for more information, or call (415) 255-3100 ext. 545 to have an informational flyer sent to you. Apply today, and be part of the solution.

GUARDIAN

Non-Profit Consulting

National non-profit consulting firm has small SF satellite office in need of a project oriented administrative assistant. This position requires an individual who can multi-task and wear many hats. Word, Excel & PowerPoint required for this great opportunity in a wonderful work environment with great benefits. \$35-40K Contact Strategic Staffing, (415) 616-6300, fax: (415) 616-6306 or email your resume to jobs@strategic-staffing.com

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Is looking for energetic, hard-working individuals. Now hiring PT BUYERS, pay starts at \$8.50/hr. with raises, benefits, great discounts, profit-sharing bonuses, and a casual fun environment! Please apply in person at 1800 Polk Street, SF. (415) 346-5726.



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BARE ESSENTUALS
san francisco

RETAIL SALES

Berkeley Clerk

For Wild Bird Store. Able to lift 50lbs. Experience preferred. Apply in person at 1527 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley.

RETAIL SALES

Sales Positions Available

No experience necessary. Leather goods. Full or part-time. \$12/hr. Jim (253) 377-4269.

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Sloat Garden Center

SF's Premier retail garden center now has several retail nursery positions available. Must have academic or professional horticultural exp. and weekend availability. Education/ training, Insurance, profit sharing, advancement, discount. FT & PT in SF. Fax resume to (415) 332-1009 or email lee@sloategardens.com



SALES

Bamboo Reef

Sales/Service position in SF store for certified divers who like people and are attracted to the idea of serving divers and newcomers to the sport. Great benefits. Karen, (415) 362-6694.

SALES

Inside Sales Telemarketing

Small entrepreneurial lease finance company seeks extremely motivated individuals for heavy telesales. Great opportunity to break into sales with unlimited earning potential. If you have prior sales background or motivated by having control over your income potential then this is your chance. Really fun group to work with. 36K base with earning potential to 60K first year. Contact Strategic Staffing, (415) 616-6300, fax: (415) 616-6306 or email your resume to jobs@strategic-staffing.com

SOCIAL SERVICES

SF Women Against Rape new volunteer training. Starts August 18th and ends Sept. 25th. Bilingual/bicultural especially needed (stipend avail) Women of color, immigrant women, queer women, transgendered women, elder women, young women differently abled women and working class/low income women especially needed as volunteers. Call 415-861-2024....x 311

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Are you a LEADER concerned about SOCIAL JUSTICE? Have you been looking for a way to combine JUDAISM and CIVIC ACTIVISM?

The New Leaders Project (NLP) is looking for you! The NLP is an innovative nine-month program sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council that helps committed individuals further their development as Jewish and civic leaders. We are seeking 1S-20 dynamic, talented individuals ages 2S-40 with leadership experience in either the Jewish or civic communities (or both) to be part of the next class which starts in September 2001. Selected individuals will learn from a wide array of community leaders, broaden their own leadership repertoires, engage in meaningful community service, and find ways of integrating Jewish values into current professional and volunteer leadership roles.

To learn more about the NLP and to receive an application, please call Marla Kolman, Program Director at (415) 957-1551 ext. 109. Applications are due by August 10, 2001.

Mixed Nutz Productions DOES IT AGAIN!

AUDITIONS for benefit performances of the off-Broadway HIT musical "The Cowboy and the Tiger," ore Aug. 21st and 23rd & Aug. 27th and 29th, from 6:30-8:30pm at Laurel School, 95 Edge Road, Atherton, CA.

Please prepare a comic monologue or one can be provided at the audition. We will teach you a song from the show. The show performs Nov. 15-18, 2001.

To confirm your audition or for more info, please call the M.N.P. hotline at (650) 868-4483 or E-mail: theruff@aol.com.

RETAIL SALES

Sales/Service position in SF store.

If you are a certified diver who loves diving, likes people and are attracted to the idea of serving divers and newcomers to the sport, this may be the job for you. Great benefits.

KAREN 415-362-6694

Bamboo Reef
www.bambooreef.com

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Are you looking for qualified applicants in the following fields?

Technology
Non-Profit
Arts
Hospitality
Sales
Social Services
Education
Healthcare



Our Careers & Education pullout supplement features with a full menu of options for talented employees to explore, from editorial coverage of the ever-changing employment market, to progressive opportunities for companies such as nonprofits, activists, and community or government organizations.

This supplement will compliment our Progressive Opportunities job fair on September 27th in downtown Oakland. The City of Oakland, ANG newspapers, Opportunity Nocs, and other great companies will be working diligently to make Progressive Opportunities the best forum for finding a new career path in the Bay Area.

The San Francisco Bay Guardian has been providing the community the Best of the Bay for nearly 35 years. Careers & Education proudly follows and expands on that commitment, providing recruitment advertisers the best value, the best readers and the best possible customer service. Why ever settle for less?

Reach over 600,000 weekly readers by advertising in the Bay Guardian's weekly careers section! Bay Guardian readers are qualified and work ready!

Careers & Education Supplement date: August 15th
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Call now while print and booth space are still available!

To participate, call a recruitment account executive at 415-255-7600 today.

Deadline: Wednesday, August 8th

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August 15th

Careers &

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Supplement

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Are you looking for
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Non-Profit
Arts
Hospitality
Sales
Social Services
Education
Healthcare**

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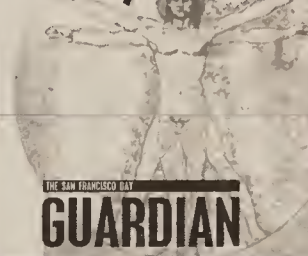
Careers & Education Supplement date:
August 15th Progressive Opportunities
Job Fair: September 27th

Call now while print and booth space
are still available!

**To participate, call
a recruitment account executive
at 415-255-7600 today.**

**Deadline:
Wednesday, August 8th**

Body & Soul



Beauty
Health
Fitness
Spirituality
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Living
Dental
Body

Announcing an exciting new addition to the San Francisco Bay Guardian classifieds, Body & Soul. This section is a comprehensive healthy living guide for the over 600,000 loyal readers who are seeking tangible improvements to their lives. Bay Area residents are concerned with quality of life issues and the Bay Guardian is offering a weekly resource for informing and providing opportunities to address those issues.

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Personal Attention

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- Individual attention
- Short Term, Small Group Classes
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- Classes Mornings, Evenings & Weekends

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Marketplace

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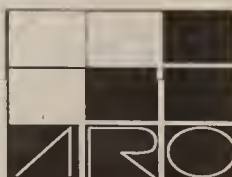
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If the name doesn't tip you off, **Venture Frogs Restaurant** is not your typical restaurant. Located in the historic landmark lobby of 1000 Van Ness, the Venture Frogs Restaurant embodies the Internet startup culture as reflected in the restaurant's cuisine, design, and attitude: fresh, modern, upbeat, informal, and fun.

NOW HIRING Servers Bussers Wait Staff

Modern Pan-Asian Cuisine

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at the intersection of old and new technologies

The restaurant is located in the landmark Don Lee Building that dates back to 1921. The lobby area has been renovated and restored. The décor is state-of-the-art with a multi-color fiber-optic illuminated bar top embedded with computer chips, plasma displays and flat-screen monitors screening varied content including some custom programming. The high-tech design of the **Venture Frogs Restaurant** reflects the spirit of the two dozen or so early stage companies that Internet entrepreneurs are incubating.



Venture Frogs
restaurant

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RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

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